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# CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

for

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial  
Put-in-Bay, Ohio

National Park Service, 1994



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# CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

## PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO


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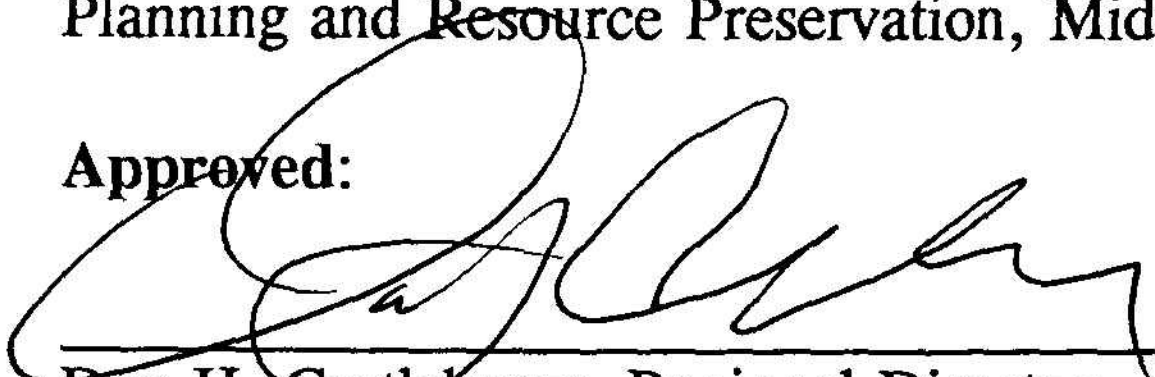
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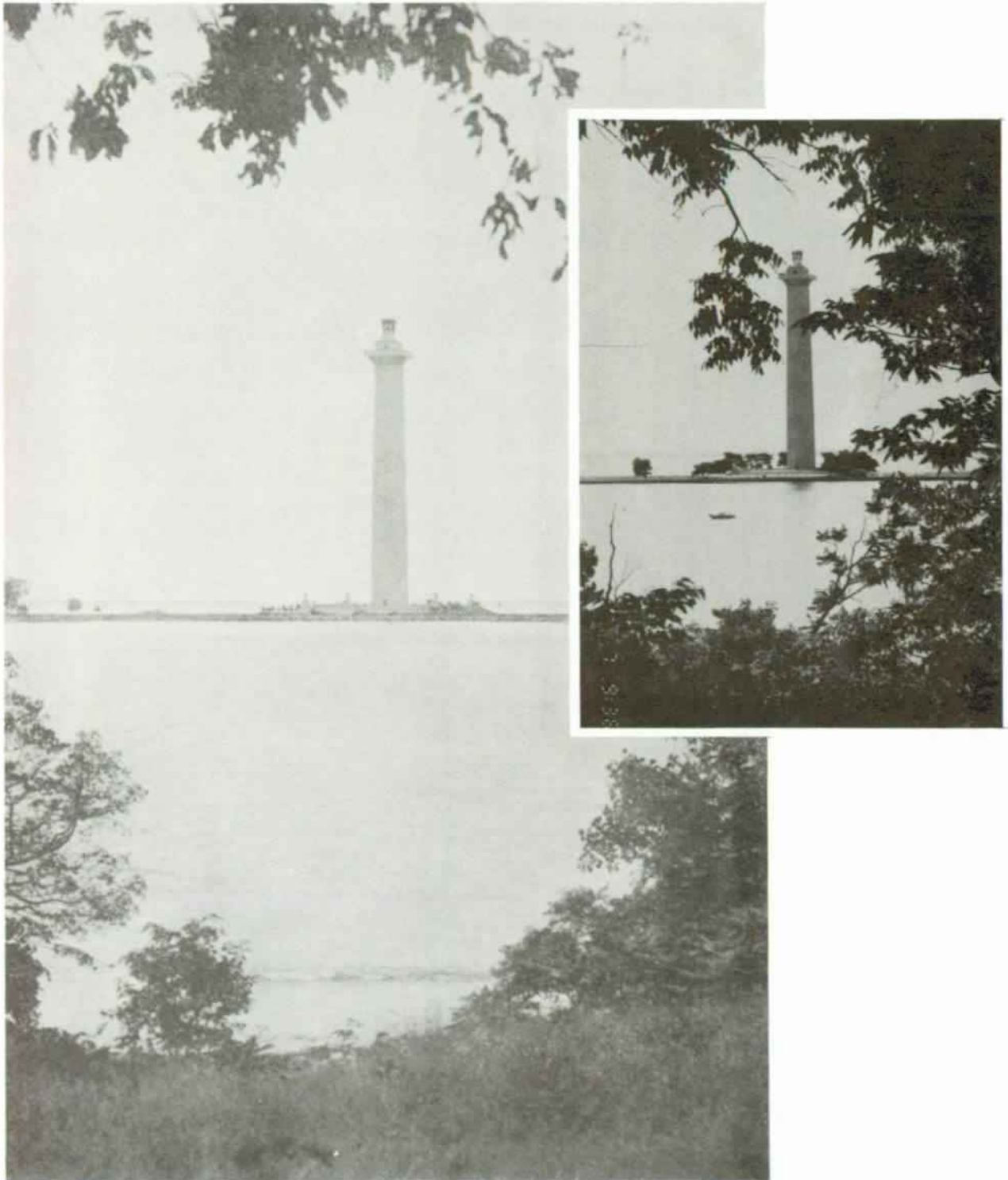
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11/3/93  
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**Fig. 1** Historic view of Gibraltar Island, c.1931, photograph by F. H. Haskett. Insert is a modern view from the same location [by author].



## PART I: MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Study Boundaries . . . . .	1
Project Background . . . . .	3
Historical Context . . . . .	3
Statement of Significance . . . . .	4
Period of Significance . . . . .	6
Methodology and Scope of Project . . . . .	6
Administrative Context . . . . .	8
Summary of Findings . . . . .	11

## PART II: PHYSICAL HISTORY OF THE LANDSCAPE

Introduction . . . . .	15
1852-1910: Movement to Establish a Memorial . . . . .	15
Establishment of the Interstate Board . . . . .	17
1911-1912: Ideas for the Memorial Design/Competition Conducted . . . . .	19
Selection of the Architects . . . . .	21
Purchase of the Site for the Memorial . . . . .	22
1912-1915: Site Clearing/Construction of the Column . . . . .	22
Site Clearing and Construction Begins . . . . .	25
Cornerstone-laying and Centennial Celebrations . . . . .	25
Plans for the Landscaping . . . . .	26
1916-1924: Construction of Seawalls/Filling of the Grounds . . . . .	28
Building the North Seawall . . . . .	28
Need for a Southern Seawall . . . . .	29
Filling the Grounds . . . . .	29
1924-1926: Major Landscape Work Completed . . . . .	31
Paving the Plazas . . . . .	32
Landscaping Plans . . . . .	34
Greening's Design . . . . .	34
Freedlander's Design . . . . .	37
Landscaping Finally Underway . . . . .	42
1927-1931: Interim Modifications of the Designed Landscape . . . . .	48
The Memorial is Finally Completed . . . . .	48
1931-1936: Depression Years . . . . .	48
1936-Today: National Park Service Administration . . . . .	51
Transfer to the National Park Service . . . . .	51
Recent Development Plans . . . . .	53
Environmental and Economic Factors . . . . .	56
History Summary Chronology . . . . .	60

## PART III: INVENTORY OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

Inventory and Documentation of Existing Conditions . . . . .	65
Topography and Drainage . . . . .	65
Circulation Systems . . . . .	67
Structures and Buildings . . . . .	67
Vegetative Features . . . . .	68
Small-scale Features . . . . .	68
Patterns of Spatial Organization . . . . .	69
Character of Adjoining Properties . . . . .	69
Condition Assessment . . . . .	70
Summary . . . . .	71

## PART IV: ANALYSIS OF CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Statement of Significance . . . . .	75
Significance and Integrity of the Features . . . . .	77
Character-Defining Features . . . . .	78
Topography and Drainage . . . . .	81
Circulation Systems . . . . .	82
Structures and Buildings . . . . .	85
Vegetative Features . . . . .	88
Small-scale Features . . . . .	93
Patterns of Spatial Organization . . . . .	95
Character of Adjoining Properties . . . . .	97
Summary . . . . .	99

## PART V: TREATMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES

Introduction . . . . .	103
Alternatives for Treatment of the Historic Landscape . . . . .	103
<u>Alternative 1: The Recommended Alternative, "Rehabilitation"</u> . . . . .	103
Treatment Alternatives Not Recommended . . . . .	104
<u>Alternative 2: "Preservation"</u> . . . . .	104
<u>Alternative 3: "Restoration"</u> . . . . .	105
<u>Alternative 4: "Reconstruction"</u> . . . . .	106
Recommendations for "Rehabilitation" . . . . .	106
Significant Features . . . . .	108
General Recommendations . . . . .	109
Specific Recommendations . . . . .	109



Topography and Drainage . . . . .	109
Circulation Systems . . . . .	110
Structures and Buildings . . . . .	112
Vegetative Features . . . . .	113
Small-scale Features . . . . .	117
Patterns of Spatial Organization . . . . .	118
Recommendations for Excluded Area [A] Around Park Administrative Structures in Southwest Corner . . . . .	119
Suggestions for Non-Historic Areas of the Park . . . . .	120
East of the Historic Boundaries [Area B] . . . . .	120
West of the Historic Boundaries [Areas C] . . . . .	121
Summary . . . . .	123

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Written Sources . . . . .	127
Photographs . . . . .	130
Drawings, Plans, or Maps . . . . .	131

## APPENDICES

Appendix A: Inventory of Existing Site Features . . . . .	135
Appendix B: Evaluation of Integrity . . . . .	139
Appendix C: Description of the Design by Freedlander . . . . .	141
Appendix D: Suggestions for Vegetation Substitutions . . . . .	143
Appendix E: Documentation of Landscape Features . . . . .	147
Appendix F: Review Comments from Ohio SHPO . . . . .	161
Appendix G: "Existing Conditions Map" and "Preservation Treatment Plan" . . . . .	see inserts

The authors would like to recognize the cooperation given to this project by Superintendent Richard A. Lusardi and members of the National Park Service staff at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. In particular, the assistance of Park Historian Gerard T. Altoff in researching primary documents enhanced the quality of the historical background section and the entire document. In addition, author Sherda Williams would like to thank her co-author Historian Susan Calafate Boyle of the Denver Service Center who, in a very limited period of time, produced a historical background section for this report that was of exceptionally high caliber. Thanks also are extended to Midwest Regional Historical Landscape Architect Mary Hughes for her guidance and support throughout this project.

Credit for all photographs, maps and drawings are given, when known, in the "Selected Bibliography." Photographs are cited in the text by their archival file number (e.g., [17-4-40]). The illustrations generated by one of the authors are credited as "by author."

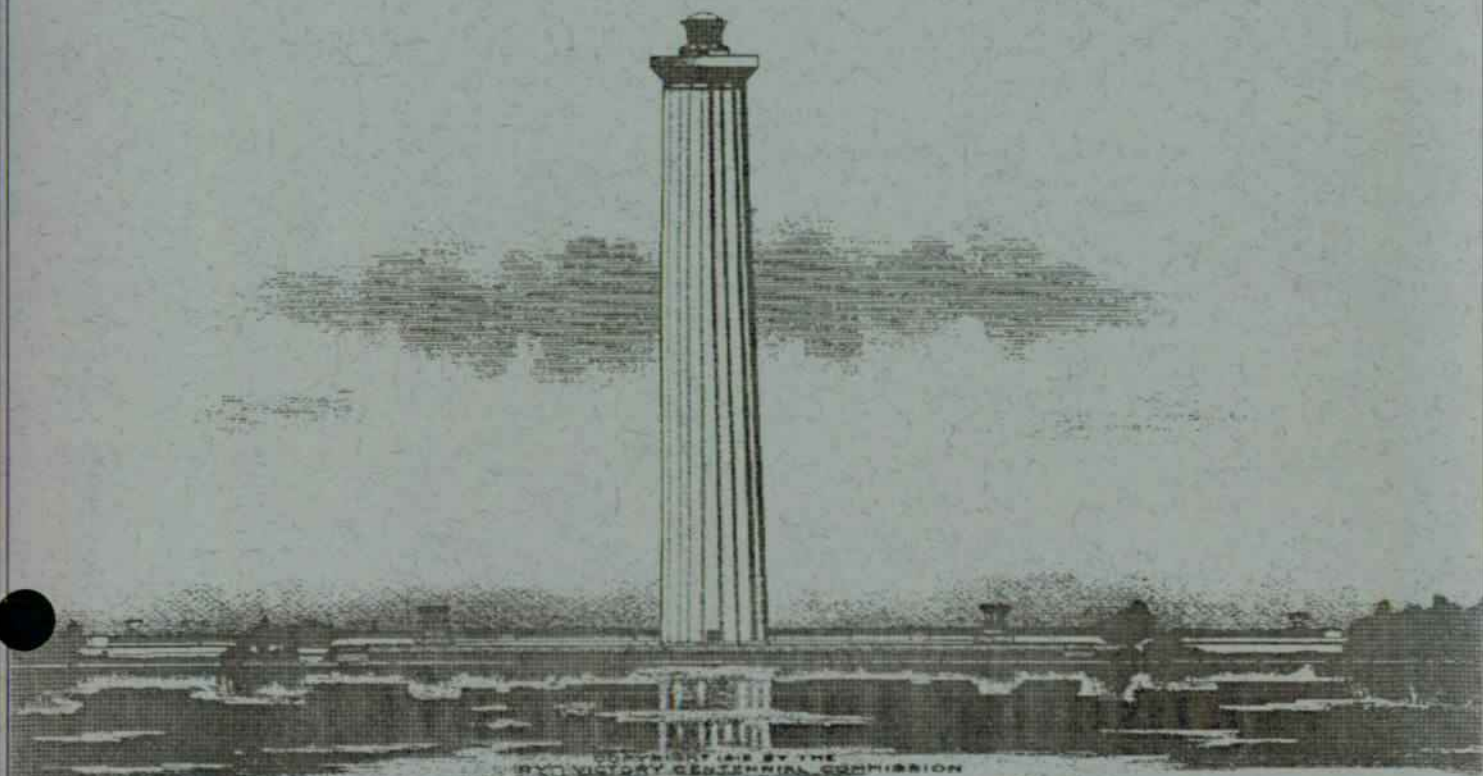
Fig. 1 Historic view of Gibraltar Island, c.1931, photograph by F. H. Haskett. Insert is a modern view from the same location [by author]. . . . .	ii
Fig. 2 Regional Location [from <i>Development Concept Plan Revision</i> , National Park Service, 1992]. . . . .	1
Fig. 3 Property Boundaries [by author]. . . . .	2
Fig. 4 Vicinity Location [from <i>Development Concept Plan Revision</i> , National Park Service, 1992]. . . . .	16
Fig. 5 An aerial view of the memorial, 1974 [17-6-20]. . . . .	17
Fig. 6 The first monument to commemorate the Battle of Lake Erie, erected by Jay Cooke on Gibraltar Island [by author]. . . . .	18
Fig. 7 Evolution of the Landscape: 1911-1924 [by author]. . . . .	20
Fig. 8 Freedlander's competition drawing, 1912. The original of this drawing has not been located [from <i>Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913</i> ]. . . . .	23
Fig. 9 Model of Freedlander's competition design, 1913. The model was destroyed in a fire at Put-in-Bay [from <i>Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913</i> ]. . . . .	24
Fig. 10 The Memorial after completion of column and plazas and before landscaping of the grounds [1926 <i>Commission Annual Report</i> ]. . . . .	28
Fig. 11 The Memorial with the LaBeau dredging equipment on the lake side (right) near the bathing beach, c.1921-1923 [from <i>The Perry's Victory Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio, Official Souvenir</i> ]. . . . .	30
Fig. 12 Evolution of the Landscape: 1924-1926 [by author]. . . . .	33
Fig. 13 Greening's proposed landscaping plan, 1921 [copied from the original by NPS/DSC staff]. . . . .	35
Fig. 14 Freedlander's plan titled "Reservation Showing Parking of Grounds," 1924 [copied from original by NPS/DSC staff]. . . . .	40
Fig. 15 The <i>Commissioner's Report for 1926</i> illustrated the accomplishments achieved with the federal appropriations. . . . .	44
Fig. 16 Evolution of the Landscape: 1927-1931 [by author]. . . . .	46
Fig. 17 The dedication ceremonies held on July 31, 1931 [17-4-29]. . . . .	47
Fig. 18 Evolution of the Landscape: 1931-1936 [by author]. . . . .	50
Fig. 19 The "Development Plan" proposed by George Wallace of the National Park Service, 1938 [copied from the original by NPS/DSC staff]. . . . .	52
Fig. 20 Aerial view of the Memorial when it was transferred to the National Park Service, c.1936. . . . .	53
Fig. 21 Evolution of the Landscape: 1936-Today [by author]. . . . .	54
Fig. 22 The current visitor contact station [by author]. . . . .	55



Fig. 23	Original survey map indicating the extent of "Chapman's Marsh."	57
Fig. 24	Photographs from the 1970s illustrate conditions during a typical spring storm. Waves breaking over the north seawall completely covered State Road 357 and drove lake water across the Memorial grounds [by park staff].	59
Fig. 25	Existing Conditions Analysis Map [by author].	66
Fig. 26	View of the column and plazas from Put-in-Bay [by author].	69
Fig. 27	Detail of Freedlander's second design for the Memorial landscape, 1924 [copied from original by NPS/DSC staff].	77
Fig. 28	An assessment of significance.	79
Fig. 29	A photograph showing the sloping terrace which had been completed around the lower plaza, but not around the upper terrace, 1915 [13-8-24].	81
Fig. 30	A view looking down the county road, Bayview Avenue, directly in front of the Memorial site. This photograph was taken prior to the site clearing which preceded construction, c.1911 [12-2-1].	83
Fig. 31	View of the ferry docks located northwest of the Memorial [by author].	84
Fig. 32	View of the north seawall constructed over the earlier 1934-35 seawall [by author].	87
Fig. 33	Mature deciduous trees massed along the east historic boundary [by author].	88
Fig. 34	Probable placement of the forty original Austrian pines planted in 1926 [by author].	90
Fig. 35	The pruned top of the Austrian pine at the southwest corner gives the appearance of being stunted [by author].	91
Fig. 36	View across the upper plaza showing geraniums planted in the northernmost beds and barberry hedges planted in the remaining beds, c.1945 [17-4-40].	92
Fig. 37	One of the four large urns decorating the corners of the upper terrace [by author].	93
Fig. 38	One of the nine historic benches located on the upper plaza [by author].	94
Fig. 39	The view of the Memorial from the water emphasizes the contrast between horizontal planes and the vertical shaft [by author].	95
Fig. 40	A view of Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Ohio and the Memorial, c.1959 [17-5-4].	97
Fig. 41	"Approaching the Memorial from East Point," c.1919 [from <i>The Perry's Victory Memorial Official Souvenir</i> ].	99
Fig. 42	An early aerial view of the Memorial under construction and the east end of South Bass Island, c.1925 [17-3-18].	100
Fig. 43	Historic Area to be Rehabilitated.	106
Fig. 44	Preservation Treatment Plan [by author].	107
Fig. 45	A view of the Memorial from the northwest showing the Austrian pines before they grew out of scale, c.1935 [17-4-8].	114
Fig. 46	Area A.	119
Fig. 47	Area B.	121
Fig. 48	Areas C.	121

# Part I

## Management Summary



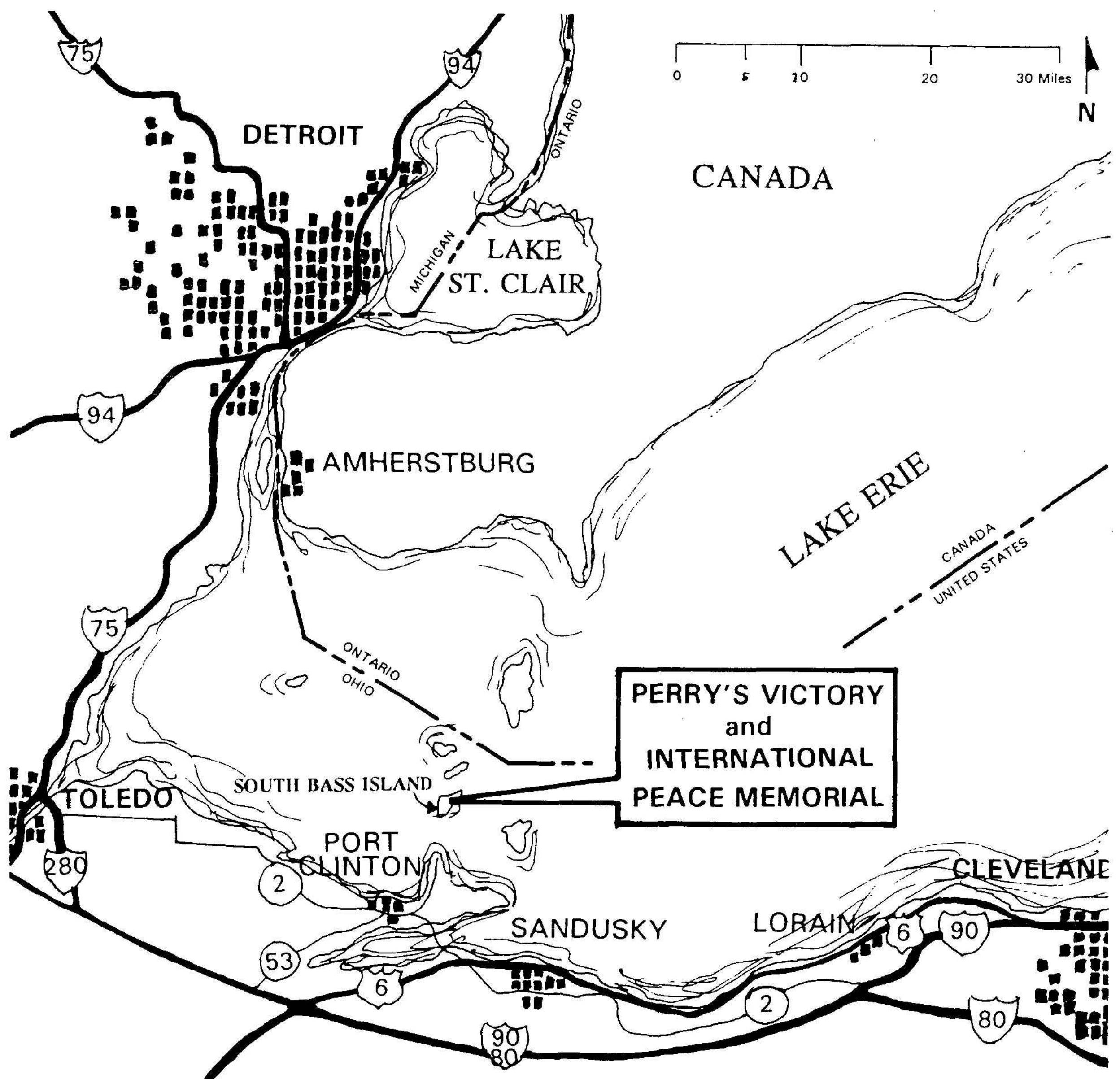
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## Study Boundaries

The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial was established to commemorate not only the naval victory by Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and the American fleet during the War of 1812, but also the lasting peace among Canada, Britain and the United States. The memorial is located on South Bass Island in Lake Erie near the U.S.-Canadian border, approximately eight miles northeast of Port Clinton, Ohio. Management of this site was transferred to the National Park Service on July 6, 1936.

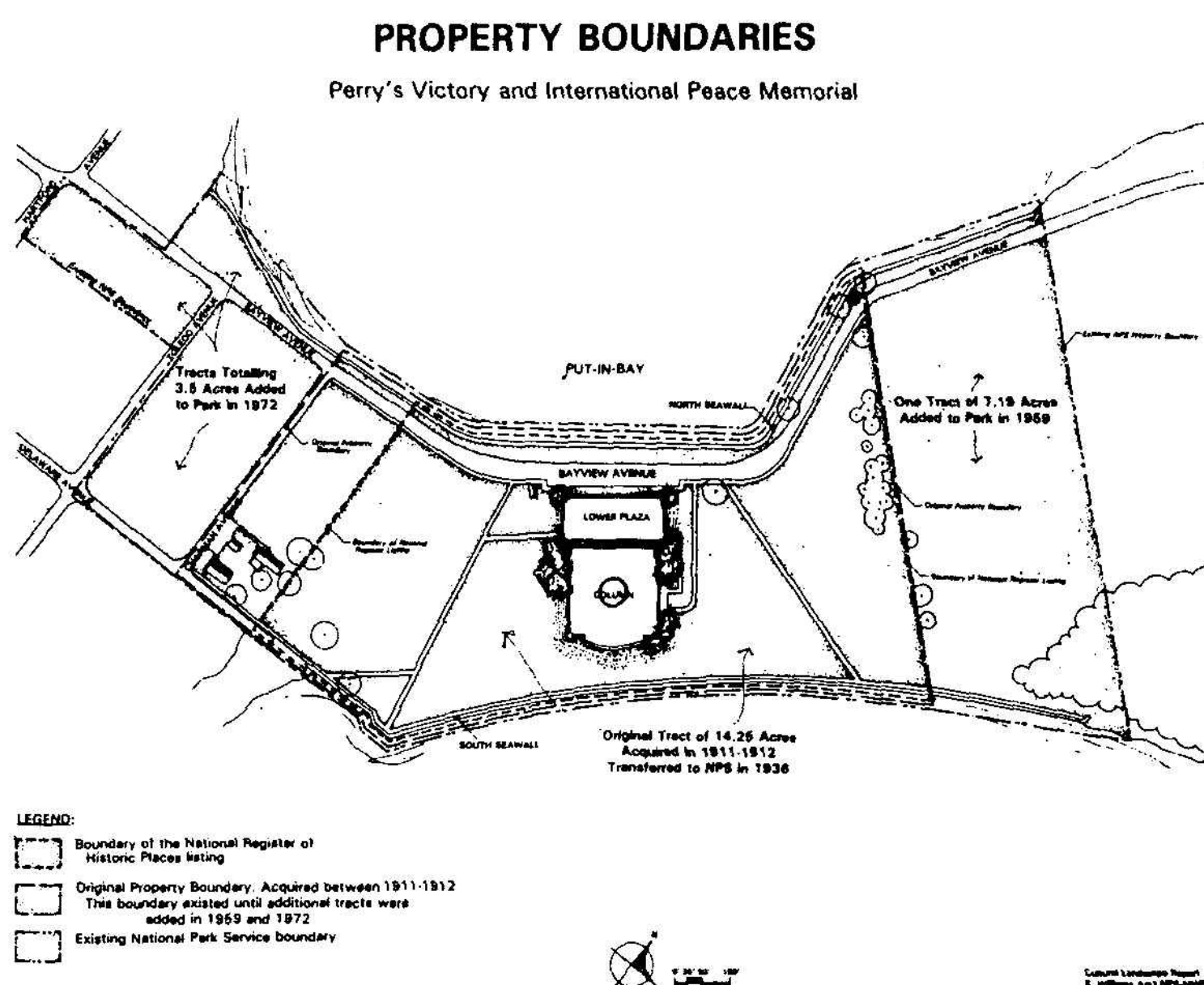
Fig. 2 Regional Location [from *Development Concept Plan Revision*, National Park Service, 1992].





This *Cultural Landscape Report* concentrates on the area within the original (1911-1912) boundaries of the memorial property, which includes the area east of Chapman Avenue and extends almost, but not quite, to the eastern ends of the north and south seawalls.<sup>1</sup> The 1912 eastern boundary is currently indicated only by a slight change in elevation and scattered vegetation, although there may be buried corner stakes at the northeastern and southeastern corners. The boundary for the National Register of Historic Sites listing coincides with the original 14.25 acres, except for approximately two acres on the west edge surrounding the superintendent's residence and the park headquarters which is excluded from listing on the Register.<sup>2</sup> The historic property of 14.25 acres was accepted by the United States government in 1919 and transferred to the National Park Service in 1936. Between 1959 and 1972, 7.19 acres were donated to the National Park Service (1959), 3.5 additional acres were purchased (1972), and 0.44 acres of easements were donated, bringing the total acreage currently under federal control to 25.38.<sup>3</sup>

Fig. 3 Property Boundaries [by author].



<sup>1</sup> These seawalls were extended in length beyond the historic eastern boundary during rehabilitation work in 1977-78.

<sup>2</sup> However, the written description of 21.44 acres indicated on the 1978 National Register of Historic Places form does not correspond to the acreage indicated by the map included with the nomination. The map and written boundary description appears to delineate the original (1912) 14.25-acre core, less approximately 1.76 acres (an area of 160 feet by 480 feet) along Chapman Avenue. From the map included with the National Register forms, it thus appears that only 12.49 acres of the original property are actually listed.

<sup>3</sup> See *Statement for Management: Perry's Victory and International Peace memorial*, National Park Service, 1992, p. 8.



## Project Background

This *Cultural Landscape Report* was produced as a collaborative effort between the Cultural Resources Division, Midwest Region Office and the Denver Service Center. Historian Susan Calafate Boyle, of the Denver Service Center, and Park Historian Gerard T. Altoff, of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, researched secondary and primary written documentation for the site. Ms. Boyle then wrote the historical background section of this report in May 1992. The remainder of the report was written by Historical Landscape Architect Sherda Williams of the Midwest Regional Office, Cultural Resources Management Division in December 1992 and edited in August 1993. The report is based on a field assessment of existing conditions conducted in July 1992 by Midwest Region Office personnel.

This *Cultural Landscape Report* delineates the character-defining features of the historic landscape and provides recommendations for the preservation treatment of the historic landscape. In addition, suggested guidelines are provided for the new development planned for parcels acquired by the National Park Service after 1936. Although these newer parcels are technically "non-historic," they do provide the setting for the monument and memorial grounds. This *Cultural Landscape Report* is an integral part of the National Park Service planning process as described in *NPS-2: Planning Process Guideline* (1982)<sup>4</sup> and *NPS-28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline* (Release No. 4, Draft 1992).

## Historical Context

The Memorial (monument and grounds) was designed by architect Joseph Freedlander (of Freedlander and Seymour, Associated Architects, New York) in the Beaux Arts style. The primary period of significance for the historic memorial landscape is 1911-1931. This period includes the design competition, development of the Memorial through the initial construction phase (1912-1915), installation of the modified landscape design (1924-1926); and a span of years when interim modifications reflected practical adjustments (1927-1931). The landscape appears to have reached its fullest development by 1931. The landscape that was implemented by this date not only reflected Freedlander's basic design concepts, but also modifications to the designs, resulting from budgetary constraints and the opinions of the strong-willed governing commission (Perry's Victory Memorial Commission).

The design competition for the memorial column and grounds was the first judged by the newly established National Commission of Fine Arts. In 1912, the Commission of Fine Arts selected Joseph H. Freedlander's submission as the winning entry. Work on Freedlander's original concept began in 1912, and the memorial column was completed by 1915. However, very little

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<sup>4</sup> A *Cultural Landscape Report* document supersedes the need for a *Historic Grounds Study* document as indicated on page 20 of *NPS-2: Planning Process Guideline*.



of Freedlander's first plan for landscaping the grounds was realized due to a lack of funding and disagreements with the administrating Interstate Board.

Freedlander submitted a second, less complicated plan for the landscape in 1924, which was partially implemented. The extensive archival collection at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial provided visual and written documentation for determining what had been implemented by 1931 and for later changes made under National Park Service administration.

Development of the Memorial landscape, guided by Freedlander's 1912 and 1924 plans, proceeded in two phases. The column and the superstructure of the plazas were completed between 1914-1915. Then, efforts to fill and level the swampy site and a lack of sufficient Congressional appropriations delayed implementation of most landscaping plans for almost a decade.

The major period of direct work on the landscape of the grounds began in 1924 and was completed by 1926. Modifications in Freedlander's 1924 design during this period appear to have been made at the insistence of the governing Interstate Board, motivated largely by the constraints of a reduced budget based on congressional appropriations. Freedlander's association with the project appears to have been minimal after 1926.<sup>5</sup> After 1926, the landscape was impacted by minor alterations, by rehabilitation work, and by loss of vegetative features due to natural processes and storm damage. A more thorough presentation of the history of the landscape development is given in "Part II: Historical Background."

### Statement of Significance

The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial derives national significance under National Register Criterion A because of its commemoration of, and relation to, the critical American victory in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. The Memorial "marks and commemorates an area that became a focus of conflict during the War of 1812 and that was the scene of activity that produced far-reaching effects in military and diplomatic history."<sup>6</sup> In addition, the memorial column is significant due to its architectural and engineering merit under Criterion C. According to the National Register nomination, the surrounding landscaped grounds were acknowledged as "essential to the memorial."<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Freedlander did participate in the 1931 dedication of the Memorial. He died in 1943 (David G. Henderson, *Special Report: Proposed Repaving of the Memorial Plazas*, Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1977, p. 9).

<sup>6</sup> Thomas P. Busch, *National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1976).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.



Although not addressed in the National Register nomination, the Memorial may also be significant under Criterion C as 1) the work of a prominent architect, 2) an example of the Beaux Arts style of architecture and landscape architecture, and 3) association with the National Commission of Fine Arts.<sup>8</sup>

The memorial column, plazas, and landscape are typical of the Beaux Arts design style, prevalent at the turn of the century. The style was strongly influenced by the classical architecture and gardens of Europe and Italy, and was brought to the United States by architects who had studied abroad at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Joseph Freedlander (the designer of the Perry's Victory Memorial) was a graduate of the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, and a prominent architect, having established his reputation both in executed buildings and in competitions prior to his Perry's Victory work.

During the apex of the Beaux Arts style (1900-1910), many public landscapes, including many of the memorials now managed by the National Park Service, were designed in this neoclassical style. This style "applied principles of proportion, scale, balanced arrangement of forms, and unity" in a classical manner and is characterized by powerful or monumental organizational features; by vistas and axial alignments; and by using neoclassical buildings, sculptures, terraces and plazas.<sup>9</sup>

Another prominent feature of the Beaux Arts style was the tendency for the architect to treat the whole site -- landscape and built features -- as a composite composition.<sup>10</sup> This is evident in Freedlander's 1911 winning competition design, as the structural terraces, road, and walks (and even the later seawalls) reinforce the simple geometry of the column. The vegetation of the site was either used as architectural "embellishments" (as when adding detail at walk intersections) or helped to structurally define the boundaries of the site, either formally as with the barberry hedging, or informally as with the tree and shrub masses along the east and west boundaries.

Although Freedlander's revised 1924 plan for the grounds is a simple, less embellished design, it still contains the formal, architectonic structuring and features of the Beaux Arts style. It functions to meet Freedlander's primary goal of setting the monument in a treeless horizontal plane so that the central memorial column is accentuated. The design also met a competition criterion that the memorial present the illusion of rising directly from the water.

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<sup>8</sup> See Appendix E for review comments on the 95 % Draft of this *Report* by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office. This *Report* recommends that the existing National Register nomination be amended to incorporate these additional areas of significance.

<sup>9</sup> William H. Wilson, *The City Beautiful Movement* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1989), pp. 22, 25, and 59.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 59.



## Period of Significance

The period of significance for the landscape is 1911 through 1931. This period of significance incorporates the design competition, development of the Memorial through the initial construction phase (1912-1915), installation of the modified landscape design (1924-1926), and span of years when interim modifications reflected practical adjustments (1927-1931). The landscape appears to have reached its fullest development by 1931. After 1931, maintenance of the designed landscape was impacted by the financial constraints of the Depression.

The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial today retains the general character, feeling, and many of the original features of Freedlander's 1924 Beaux Arts design. Visitors to the Memorial still experience much of the same visual impact that the column and adjacent landscape have provided since the 1930s. Missing features are generally well-documented and could be restored to enhance the integrity of this historic designed landscape.

## Methodology and Scope of Project

Midwest Office Regional Historical Landscape Architect Mary Hughes, Historical Landscape Architect Sherda Williams, and Landscape Architectural Intern Mark Weekley conducted a field inventory of existing conditions and landscape features in July 1992. The inventory was completed only on the original (1912) portion of the Memorial (14.25 acres). National Park Service (NPS)/Denver Service Center (DSC) provided an AutoCAD-generated base map used for the inventory.<sup>11</sup>

Historian Susan Boyle, Park Historian Gerard T. Altoff, and the Midwest Regional Office staff<sup>12</sup> involved with this project reviewed the archival documentation at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The documentation reviewed included an excellent collection of photographs, plans and other graphic material, and written documents. The archives at the park contains a photographic collection (O.G. Herbst, photographer) that documents the construction. The archives also contains the written records of the Memorial commissions.

In addition, Historian Boyle and Park Historian Altoff examined documentation sources at the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus, Ohio. A more thorough examination of the commission records potentially could uncover more details on the evolution of the site. Plans and graphic

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<sup>11</sup> The base map was compiled in 1991 under a contract between McDonnell, Proudfoot & Associates, Inc. (an engineering, planning and surveying firm) and the National Park Service, Denver Service Center. These AutoCAD maps were produced at a 1"=20' scale with 1' contour intervals indicated.

<sup>12</sup> Historical Landscape Architect Sherda Williams, Regional Historical Landscape Architect Mary Hughes, and Seasonal (Summer 1992) Landscape Architectural Technician Mark Weekley.



materials were also located at the NPS/DSC, Technical Information Center and in storage at the NPS/Midwest Regional Office. Telephone inquiries for relevant information were also made with the Library of Congress (for National Commission of Fine Arts records), Columbia University,<sup>13</sup> and the archives of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.<sup>14</sup> Future research may discover Freedlander's professional papers and more drawings. The authors conducted a thorough search of obvious sources for this *Report*.

Evaluation of the integrity of the historic character of the site was made using procedures presented in two National Register bulletins: *National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes* and *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*. Historical documentation sources were analyzed in relation to the existing site inventory.

Historic photographs, plans and drawings provided the most useful documentation sources for determining when landscape features appeared on or disappeared from the landscape.<sup>15</sup> Relying on photographs alone was inadvisable though, since dating was fairly tentative on the majority of the photographs found in the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial archives. The usefulness of these photographs was enhanced dramatically by comparison with written documentation (most specifically Perry's Victory Memorial Commission records).

Various surveys or inventories completed by the National Park Service (after acquisition of the site in 1936) were also useful in identifying later locations (and sometimes species and size) of plants on the site. The authors used all of these sources to compile a chronological reference list for individual features and components of the landscape (see Appendix E, "Documentation of Landscape Features," of this *Report*).

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<sup>13</sup> Freedlander was a graduate of Columbia University, and it was thought his papers might be archived there. However, this did not prove to be the case.

<sup>14</sup> Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. was a member of the National Commission of Fine Arts when the Perry's Victory Memorial design competition was judged by the Commission. Olmsted's correspondence did not provide any relevant information.

<sup>15</sup> The 1912 Freedlander plan for the landscaping of the Memorial grounds has not been located at this time. However, "Sheet No. 12" of the construction document package was located which shows the column and plazas. Photographs of the Freedlander competition drawings and model were reproduced in the 1913 *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*. Also available, and more helpful, were the written specifications (1914) in the landscaping contract which designated plant materials for the 1912 plan (Alfred Mongin, "Appendix Number X," *A Construction History...*, 1961). On the other hand, the 1924 Freedlander plan titled "Reservation Showing Parking [Landscaping] of Grounds, Sheet No. 1B" was located. Individual plants were not labelled on this later plan, and no written specifications have been located at this time.



## Administrative Context

Other National Park Service documents or previous studies that include decisions or recommendations that address the historic landscape include the following:

- *A Historic Structure Report: Memorial Column and Plazas, Administrative and Architectural Data* was completed by a contractor, Dalton-Dalton-Little-Newport, in 1976.

This report specifically addresses the then existing conditions of the upper and lower plazas, granite steps, plaza walls and plaza planting boxes. Recommendations were presented for rehabilitation of these structural features and the rehabilitation work based on this report was completed by 1978.

- The *Statement for Management* by Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial staff, National Park Service, was updated and approved in 1992.

This management document notes the impact of flooding upon the grounds, and in particular, the effect flooding had upon the composition of lawn grass species. However, no indication is given relating these impacts upon the grass species composition relative to any historic lawn grass mixture. The *Statement for Management* indicates a need for a *Cultural Landscape Report*. The *Statement for Management* also notes that development plans call for a visitor approach mall which extends into the historic zone of the memorial grounds. These conceptual plans do not necessarily conflict with the goal of this *Cultural Landscape Report*. Detail designs for the approach mall, currently under development, may be sensitive and responsive to *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.<sup>16</sup>

- *Conceptual Plans* (various dates).

Beginning soon after the 1936 acquisition of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial property, NPS staff developed various conceptual development plans. Although some of these plans were approved, none appear to have been implemented. However, many of these planning efforts included surveys or maps of existing conditions (of the time) which provided useful documentation for this report.

- No previous *Historic Grounds Report* nor *Cultural Landscape Report* have been prepared for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial.

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<sup>16</sup> U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (Washington, D.C.), October 1992.

- *The Development Concept Plan and Assessment of Alternatives* by Denver Service Center, NPS, approved 1978.

*Development Concept Plan Revision/Interpretive Prospectus* by Denver Service Center, NPS, approved August 1992.

These two documents address design and development of staff (permanent and seasonal) housing needs and visitor services. Since the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial site is so small, these proposed developments have the potential to visually (at least) impact the character of the historic memorial grounds. However, only the proposed design concept for an approach mall appears to have a direct impact within the 14.25 acre original core of the site.

The major recommendations presented as the preferred "Alternative 3" of the 1992 *Development Concept Plan Revision/Interpretive Prospectus* are:

- 1) locate a new visitor center/administrative facility within the Chapman Avenue-Toledo Avenue block;
- 2) locate new maintenance and staff housing facilities on the 4-acre tract to the east of the historic core and screen from view;
- 3) remove existing visitor's information shed;
- 4) make all public facilities fully accessible to visitors with disabilities;
- 5) retain the existing Superintendent's residence and garage;
- 6) accommodate both pedestrian and bicycle traffic on the new Approach Mall; and
- 7) design all new structures to be compatible with the predominant architectural themes of the adjacent village.

There are a few informational discrepancies between the *Development Concept Plan (DCP) Revision/Interpretive Prospectus* (1992) and this *Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)* resulting from the documentation uncovered during this writing. On page 14, the *DCP Revision* indicates that the seawalls are considered as noncontributing features on both the List of Classified Structures and the National Register of Historic Places nomination.<sup>17</sup> Both seawalls are listed on the List

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<sup>17</sup> The north seawall was apparently first built as a retaining wall in 1916 (Alfred Mongin, *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, 2 volumes, N.p.: National park Service, 1961, p. 283), then was rebuilt in 1934-1935 (Ibid., p. 283). The 1934-1935 wall was then enlarged by adding height and length in 1977-1978. Also during the 1977-1978 season, the 1925-1926 south seawall was removed and an entirely new, taller and longer seawall was built to the south of the earlier wall.



of Classified Structures (dated June 1989) as contributing features; they are listed as noncontributing elements on the National Register nomination. Documentation collected for this *Cultural Landscape Report* indicates that the seawalls were part of the landscape during the period of significance and, although modified, they should be considered as contributing to the historic character.

Also on page 14, the *Development Concept Plan Revision* notes that there are "no specific reference to the historic landscape setting" on the National Register of Historic Places nomination form. However, the 1978 National Register form does state that:

It is thus essential to the protection of the property's significance and integrity that the grounds included within this nomination remain free of future construction and that any new structures within its proximity either be appropriately screened with vegetation or be so placed and designed as to blend into the low visual wall formed by the town.<sup>18</sup>

Concepts for a formal approach mall, which has been a component of various NPS plans since 1938, has the potential to conflict with recommendations presented in this *Report*. This conflict lies with the potential for new features to negatively impact the historic character of the Memorial landscape. The *Cultural Landscape Report* recognizes the management and public safety issues that this new walkway accommodates, but recommends that the proposed approach mall be designed so that it does not adversely offset the historic character of the 14.25-acre historic core.

One minor conflict between the plan presented in the 1992 *Development Concept Plan Revision* and recommendations of this *Cultural Landscape Report* is the proposed partial removal of Chapman Avenue along the western boundary of the historic grounds. Because the original western boundary was defined by Chapman Avenue, if the road is removed, some other physical manner of marking this historic western boundary should be considered. Alternatively, Chapman Avenue could be changed from a vehicular to a pedestrian thoroughfare.

The proposed alternative plans appear to have little impact upon the significant vegetative features of the site; indeed, the recommended alternative has the potential to restore the integrity of the buffering masses of trees and shrubs historically located along the east boundary of the historic grounds.

No other planning documents were found to contain recommendations pertaining to the historic designed landscape. The park's enabling legislation of June 2, 1936 (49 Stat. 1393) declares the purpose of establishment to be:

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<sup>18</sup> Thomas P. Busch, "Item Number 8," *National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, 1978), p. 2.



...the preservation of the historical associations connected therewith, to inculcate the lessons of international peace by arbitration and disarmament, and for the benefit and enjoyment of the people...<sup>19</sup>

Testimony on a later bill (Public Law 92-568, 86 Stat. 1181 of October 26, 1972) "...committed the National Park Service to removing the structures acquired on the [newer portions of] land and to provide a landscaped approach mall."<sup>20</sup>

### Summary of Findings

The original 14.25-acres of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is a nationally significant historic landscape that enhances the commemorative nature of the property. This report documents the development of the landscape over time and analyzes its contributing character-defining features. Finally, a recommendation is presented for rehabilitation to protect and preserve those character-defining features and the landscape as a whole, while accommodating contemporary management needs.

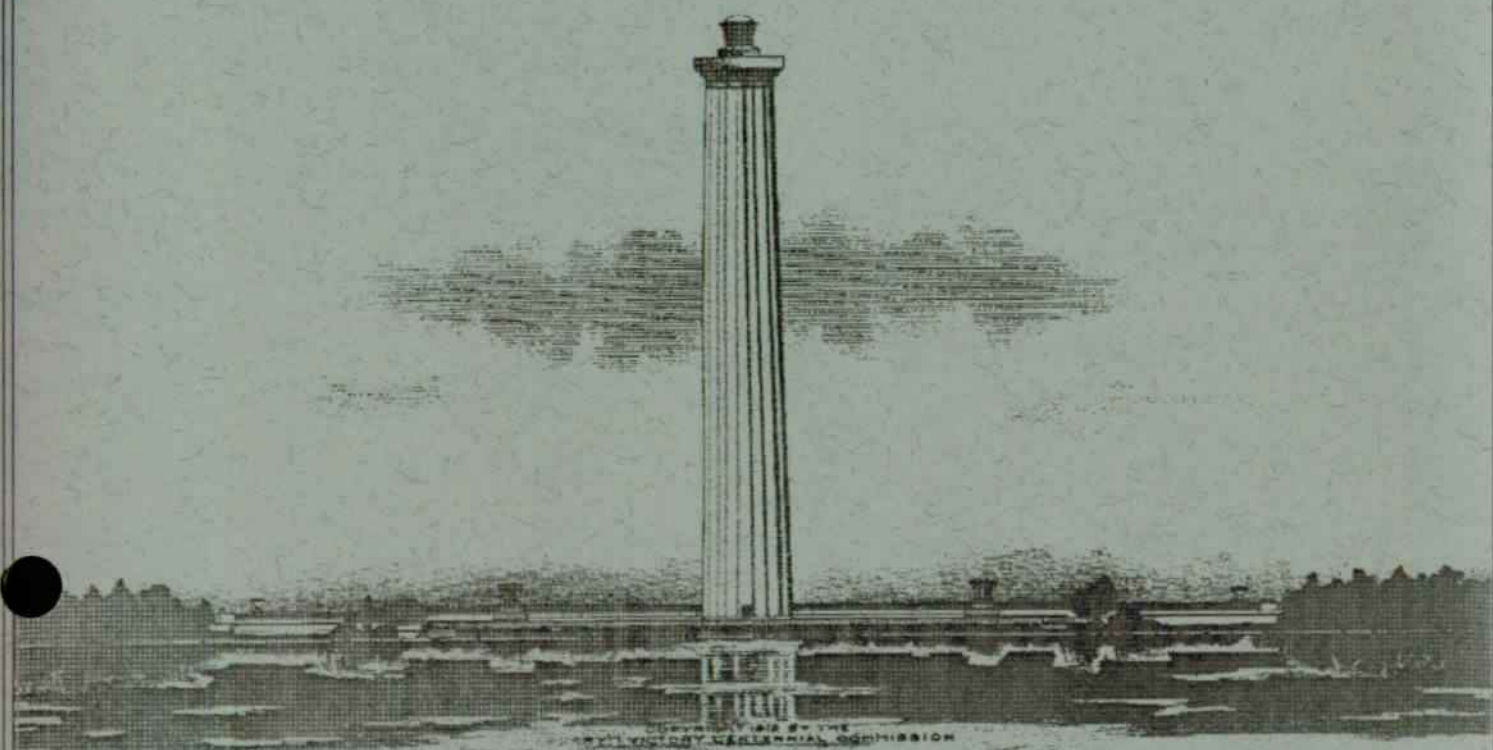
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<sup>19</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *Laws Relating to the National Park Service, Supplement 1, July 1933 through April 1944*, 1944, p. 173.

<sup>20</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, 1992, p. 2.

# Part II

## Physical History of the Landscape





## Introduction<sup>1</sup>

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is located on an isthmus on South Bass Island in the western basin of Lake Erie (see Fig. 4 and Fig. 5). The Memorial was built to commemorate Commodore Oliver H. Perry's victory against the British on September 10, 1813. The American squadron waited for the enemy in Put-in-Bay, at the north-east side of the isthmus. When the British fleet was sighted, a battle ensued about eight miles to the northwest. After the American victory, Perry's ships brought troops under the command of General William Harrison back to South Bass Island. From there, they left for the capture of Detroit and the Battle of the Thames.

### 1852-1910: Movement to Establish a Memorial

Efforts to establish a monument to honor Perry's victory got under way in 1852. Promoters proposed Gibraltar Island, located just north of South Bass, as a site because it was in the vicinity of the American fleet's starting point. Their accomplishments were limited although they did manage to establish the Perry Monument Association in 1858. This organization included governors, military and naval officers, and representatives from cities bordering Lake Erie. Interest remained focused on Gibraltar Island. In 1864 Jay Cooke, a nationally-known financier, acquired the island and erected a monument (see Fig. 6 on page 18).

After the Civil War, however, enthusiasm grew for a memorial at Put-in-Bay village, coinciding with the growing importance of South Bass Island as a resort area. In 1867 the Perry

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<sup>1</sup> A chronological summary of the history of the site is presented at the end of this chapter.

The documents on which this report is based are located at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial archives, (hereafter cited as "PEVI"), Put-in-Bay, Ohio, and at the Ohio Historical Center at Columbus, Ohio. The latter are part of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission collection, 1908-1936 (hereafter cited as "PVMCC"), which contains 66 letter files boxes. There is no comprehensive index for these records and the available descriptions for each box, presumably the work of Webster P. Huntington, still do not allow easy access to any individual document. In 1961 Alfred Mongin microfilmed some of these records; these materials can be found in the park's archives. Important sources for the study of the history of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial are Webster P. Huntington's *The Perry's Victory Memorial: A History of Its Origin, Construction, and Completion* (Akron, 1917) and Alfred Mongin's *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (National Park Service, 1961). These two works provide the basis for the general background information presented in this report.



Fig. 4 Vicinity Location [from *Development Concept Plan Revision*, National Park Service, 1992].

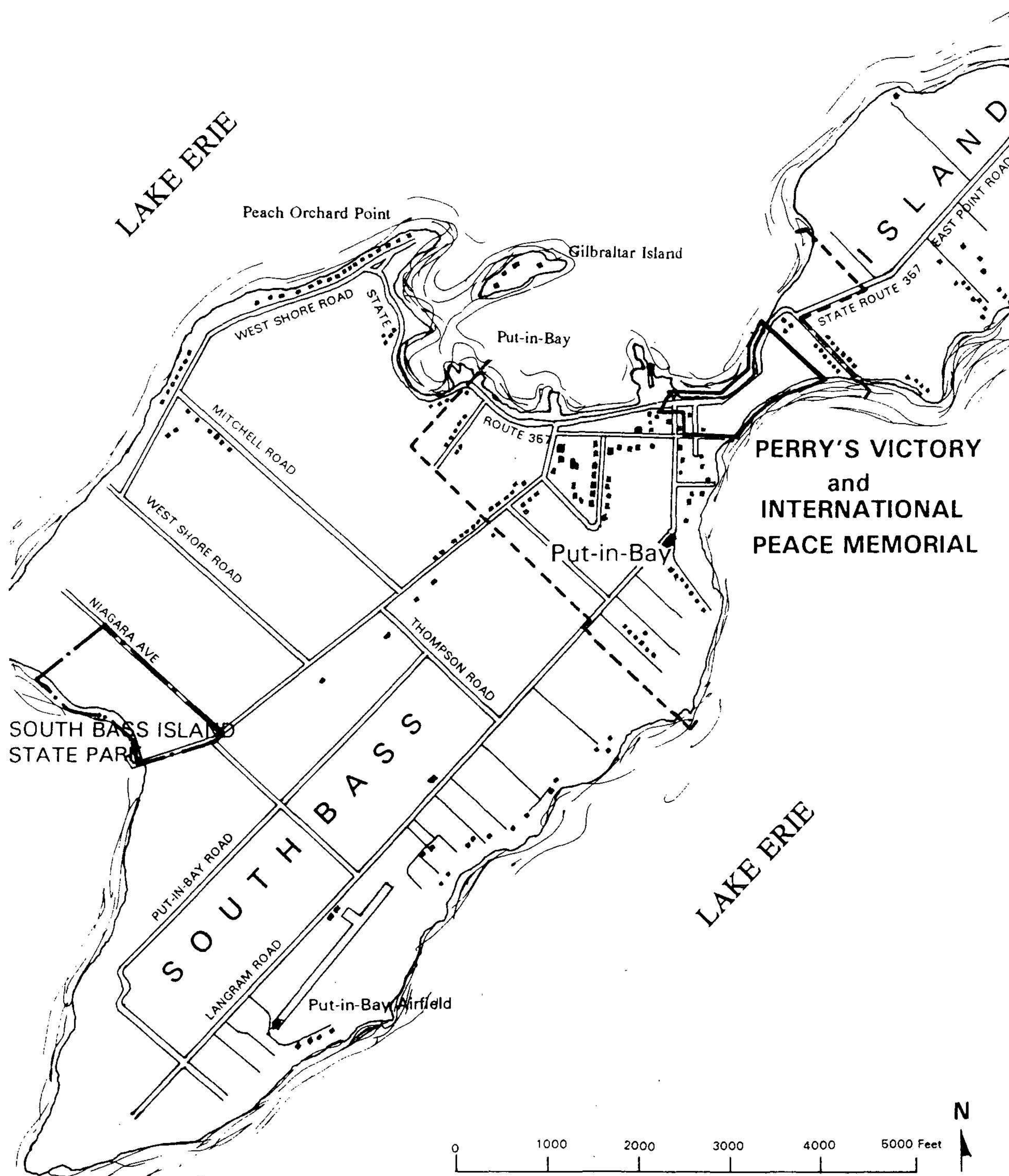
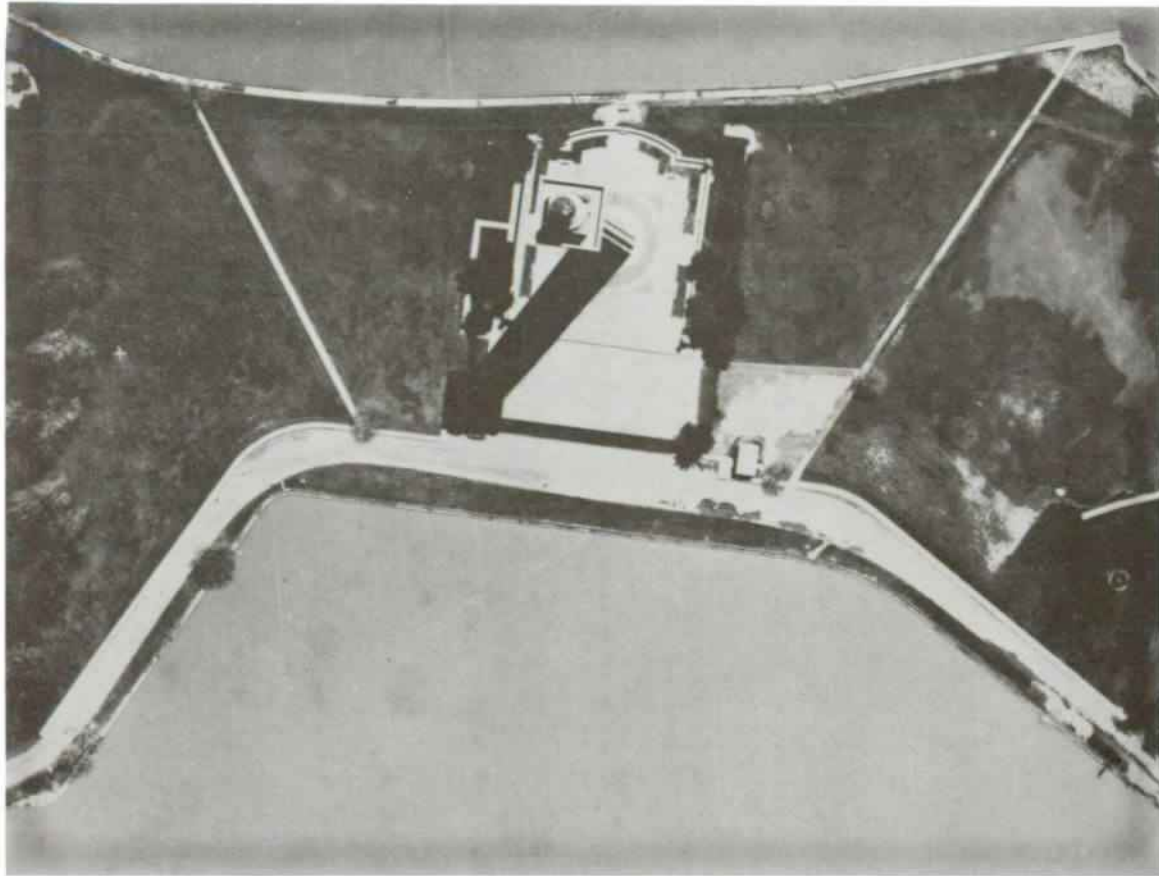


Fig. 5 An aerial view of the memorial, 1974 [17-6-20].



Monumental Association was formed and fund-raising started. Success was limited as twelve congressional bills, introduced to create a monument between 1890 and 1903, failed to pass.

### Establishment of the Interstate Board

With the approach of the battle's centennial a board was established in 1908, largely through the efforts of Webster P. Huntington, a journalist from Columbus, Ohio, who ultimately was involved with the administration of the memorial for almost forty years.<sup>2</sup> At Put-in-Bay on

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<sup>2</sup> Huntington remained lucid until his death in 1945. His voluminous correspondence with members of the various commissions and Superintendents S. Johanssen and William Schnoor provides the best and most complete source for the study the monument's history.



September 10, 1910, the Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission<sup>3</sup> was formed, composed of representatives from nine states: those bordering the Great Lakes (Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and New York) and Rhode Island (Perry's home state), Kentucky (which furnished the principal part of the army of General Harrison), and Massachusetts.<sup>4</sup>

At this first meeting the Interstate Board unanimously adopted a general concept for a memorial as designed by John Eisenmann, a Cleveland architect and civil engineer.<sup>5</sup> It proposed the isthmus as the site, and included an aquarium, lighthouse beacons, naval and weather observatories, and a wireless station as well as items such as fountains and viewing balconies. Eisenmann's concept also included space for a convention center, with upper floors dedicated to the states comprising the Interstate Board. Huntington used this design in his lobbying efforts to gain funds from the various state legislatures.

The Interstate Board formulated two distinct objectives: the centennial celebration in 1913 and the erection of a suitable memorial. Public Law 463 of March 3, 1911 added three United States commissioners to the board and also provided for a \$250,000 federal appropriation conditional on a requirement by President William Howard Taft that the Board consult with the newly formed National Commission of Fine Arts on the design. By this time the construction of a memorial had become the central idea of the centennial celebration.

Fig. 6 The first monument to commemorate the Battle of Lake Erie, erected by Jay Cooke on Gibraltar Island [by author].



<sup>3</sup> The name "Interstate Board" is used in this text to refer to this administrative body, until 1919, when the Memorial was accepted by the United States and the "Perry's Victory Memorial Commission" was created to replace the Interstate Board. Thereafter, the term "Commission" is used in the text to refer to this second body.

<sup>4</sup> *The Perry's Victory Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio, Official Souvenir*, [probably 1931], second page.

<sup>5</sup> A copy of Eisenmann's drawing is located in the Perry's Victory archives.

**1911-1912: Ideas for the Memorial  
Design/Competition Conducted**

In September 1911 the Interstate Board retained Frank Miles Day, a nationally renown architect from Philadelphia, as professional adviser for the selection, through a competition, of a design and architect for the Perry Memorial. Day was a past president of the American Institute of Architects, former chairman of its Committee on Competitions, and had served as a juror on similar contests for several federal buildings.

Day also recommended that the National Commission of Fine Arts be asked to judge the competition. This newly established seven-member commission<sup>6</sup> consisted of prominent architects, painters, sculptors and a landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Daniel Burnham was the Chairman and Colonel Spencer Crosby the secretary and executive officer. Other members included Daniel Chester French, Cass Gilbert, Thomas Hastings, and Francis Millet. Late in September Day and other members of the Interstate Board met informally with the Commission of Fine Arts in New York and obtained their agreement to act as a jury. The design competition for the Perry's Victory Memorial is significant as the first architectural competition judged by this national commission.

Day prepared the program for the competition and in conjunction with the Building Committee revised it and authorized publication on October 11. A few days later a news release disclosed that \$600,000 would be expended for the construction of a "commemoration shaft" (the column) and museum, but only \$458,000 were available: \$75,000 from Pennsylvania, \$83,000 from Ohio, \$50,000 from Minnesota, and \$250,000 from the federal government. The program for the competition specified that the reservation should provide a suitable setting for the memorial, but that the whole area did not have to be treated in a formal manner. It indicated that the curving road running along the shore of Put-in-Bay might be changed and widened, but that no part of the reservation, or of the road, could extend further into the bay or the lake than the shore line. The bay and the lake had to be connected to provide for the passage of boats of the life saving service.<sup>7</sup> The earth excavated from such connection, and any extensions of it, could be utilized in raising the level of the site, but competitors could show the memorial as rising directly from the water. The program also stressed that adequate circulation should be provided within the buildings and the reservation.

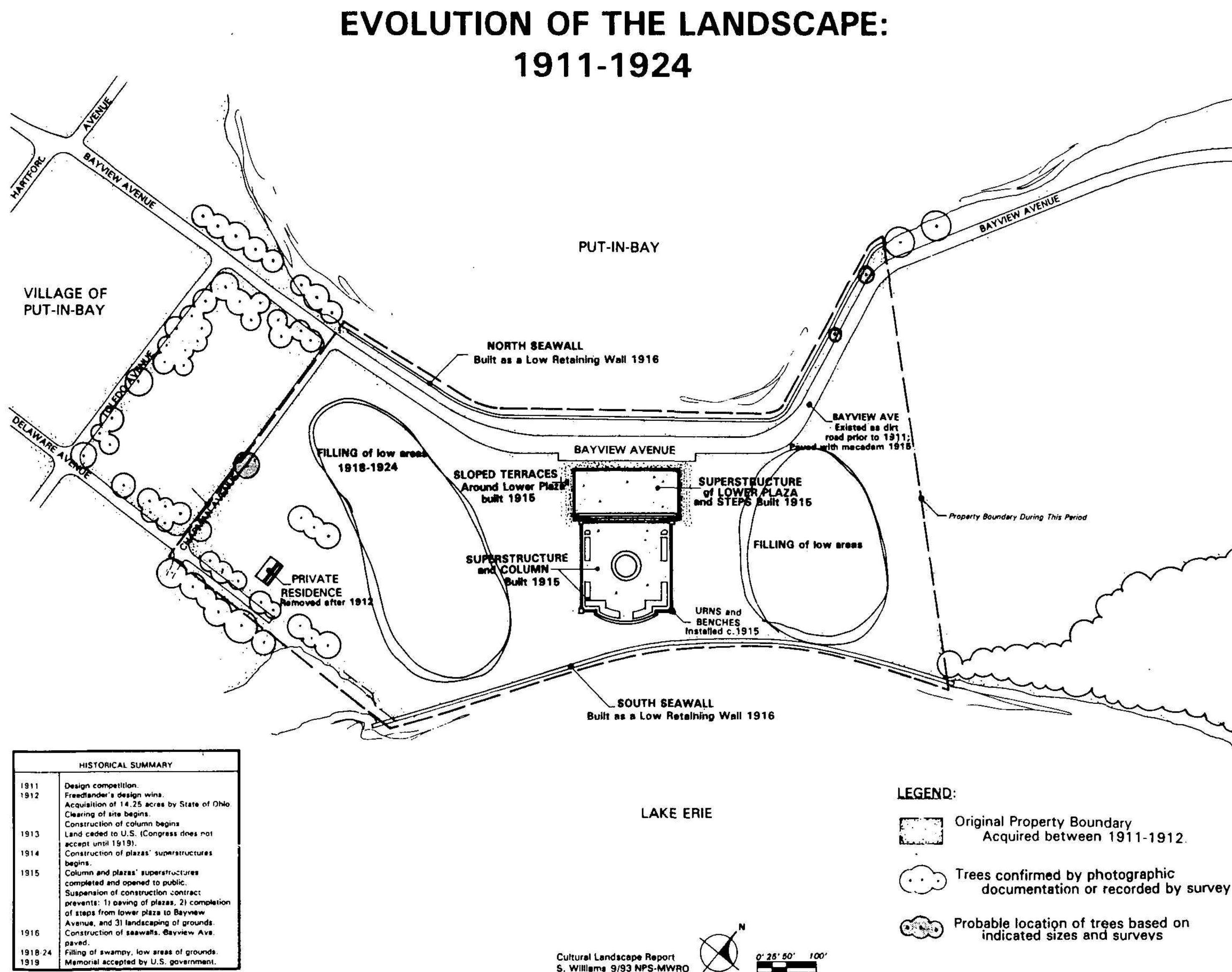
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<sup>6</sup> The National Commission of Fine Arts was established by President Taft and Congress in 1910, and today still functions to advise Congress and the executive departments on design questions. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. served as the landscape architect member from 1910 to 1918 (Norman T. Newton, *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture*, 1971, p. 411).

<sup>7</sup> This requirement was not met by the winning design nor by the implemented plan.



Fig. 7 Evolution of the Landscape: 1911-1924 [by author].



The \$600,000 allocated for the construction of the memorial did not include the improvement of the grounds. The Commission assumed that the expenditure for the same would be confined to \$100,000, and competitors were advised to design improvements within these limits. The specifications did not require exact plans for landscaping. A general design showing the proposed arrangement of the memorial, the roads and paths and the treatment of the reservation was the first requirement. The list of requisites included also a plan of the first story, a section drawing through the museum and the shaft, an elevation drawing of the museum and shaft, and a perspective drawing of the whole design.

### Selection of the Architects

Eighty-two architects from 19 cities, including 42 from New York alone, submitted a total of 54 designs. All the federal and state commissioners of the Interstate Board were invited to view the plans displayed at the new National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

After the judging on January 25 and 26, 1912 the National Commission selected the design by Joseph Henry Freedlander and Alexander Duncan Seymour, Associated Architects, New York City. The Building and Executive Committees unanimously endorsed the Commission's choice.<sup>8</sup>

Freedlander and Seymour, graduates of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia University, respectively, also attended the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Freedlander was one of the first three Americans to receive its diploma in architecture. Both native New Yorkers, they continued to practice there independently following the end of their association in 1917. Freedlander served as the lead architect for the project even while he and Seymour were partners. Freedlander had already established his reputation, both in executed buildings and in competitions. He had designed the St. Louis Clubhouse in 1897, the National Home for

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<sup>8</sup> The list of individual architects and firms which submitted designs included Abbott and Shattuck; Allen and Collens; Bosworth and Holden; W. W. Bosworth; Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson; Walter B. Chambers; Shiras Campbell; Edward Pearce Casey; Cook & Welch and Lawrence Peck, Associated; Delano & Aldrich; D'Oench & Yost; Wilson Eyre; Ellicott & Emmart; John Eisemann; Ewing and Chappell; Ernest Flagg; Abram Garfield; John C. Greenleaf; Griffin & Wynkoop; Hood & Ferrand; Howes & Morse; Wm. C. Hays; Howells & Stokes; Haight & Githens; Hunt & Hunt; Hewett, Granger & Paist; Charles P. Huntington; Edgar A. Josselyn; Beverly S. King; Lord, Hewlett & Tallant; Lehmann & Schmidt; Louis Christian Mullgardt; Charles Morris; H. van Buren Magonigle; Gustav A. Mueller; Nelson & Van Wagenen; Frank E. Newman; Neff & Thompson; Charles R. Owsley; John Russell Pope; Albert R. Ross; Renwick, Aspinwall & Tucker; Tietig & Lee; Edward L. Tilton; Tracy, Swartwout & Litchfield; Walker & Chichester; Jas. E. Ware and Son; Charles Peter Weeks; Wheelwright, Haven & Hoyt; and Zantzinger, Borie & Medary.



Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Johnson City, Tennessee in 1904, and the Portland-Oregon Auditorium in 1911.<sup>9</sup>

Freedlander's competition submission consisted of a long elevated plaza running northeast-southwest, with the column in the middle, and monumental steps down to the shore of Put-in-Bay. Freedlander located a symbolic sculpture group and colonnade at the southwest end of the plaza and a museum at the northwest end, but eventually a lack of funds delayed and finally blocked their construction (Fig. 8 and Fig. 9). The architect completed rough working drawings by March 11, and visited the site May 12, 1912. At this time Frank Miles Day, Freedlander and the Commission of Fine Arts agreed that the column was the central *motif* of the memorial.

### Purchase of the Site for the Memorial

The parcels comprising the 14.25-acre isthmus site were assembled and purchased by the State of Ohio between July 1911-May 1912, and were ceded to the United States in May 1913. However, the federal government did not accept title to the Memorial until 1919.

### 1912-1915: Site Clearing/Construction of the Column

By June 4, 1912 the architects obtained four bids or estimates for the construction of the column ranging from \$329,851 to \$427,000. The bids included neither the electrical installation nor the construction and installation of the bronze urn for the apex of the monument; both were handled later under separate contracts. That same day the Building and Executive Committees voted to award a contract to the low bidder, J. C. Robinson and Son of New York City. The Executive Committee also approved the tombolo<sup>10</sup> site and stipulated that title to the memorial would eventually be conveyed to the United States.

Freedlander and Seymour engaged the services of several consultants to survey the site. To their dismay the investigations revealed that the dolomite bedrock ran irregularly from 10 to 20 feet below lake level, not the 5 feet below lake level stated in the competition program. They also

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<sup>9</sup> Freedlander's success continued after his association with the Perry's Victory Memorial. He designed the Museum of the City of New York in 1928, The Spa in Saratoga, New York in 1929 and the Bronx County Court House in 1934.

<sup>10</sup> A tombolo is a sand or gravel bar connecting an island with a mainland or another island.

Fig. 8 Freedlander's competition drawing, 1912. The original of this drawing has not been located [from *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*].

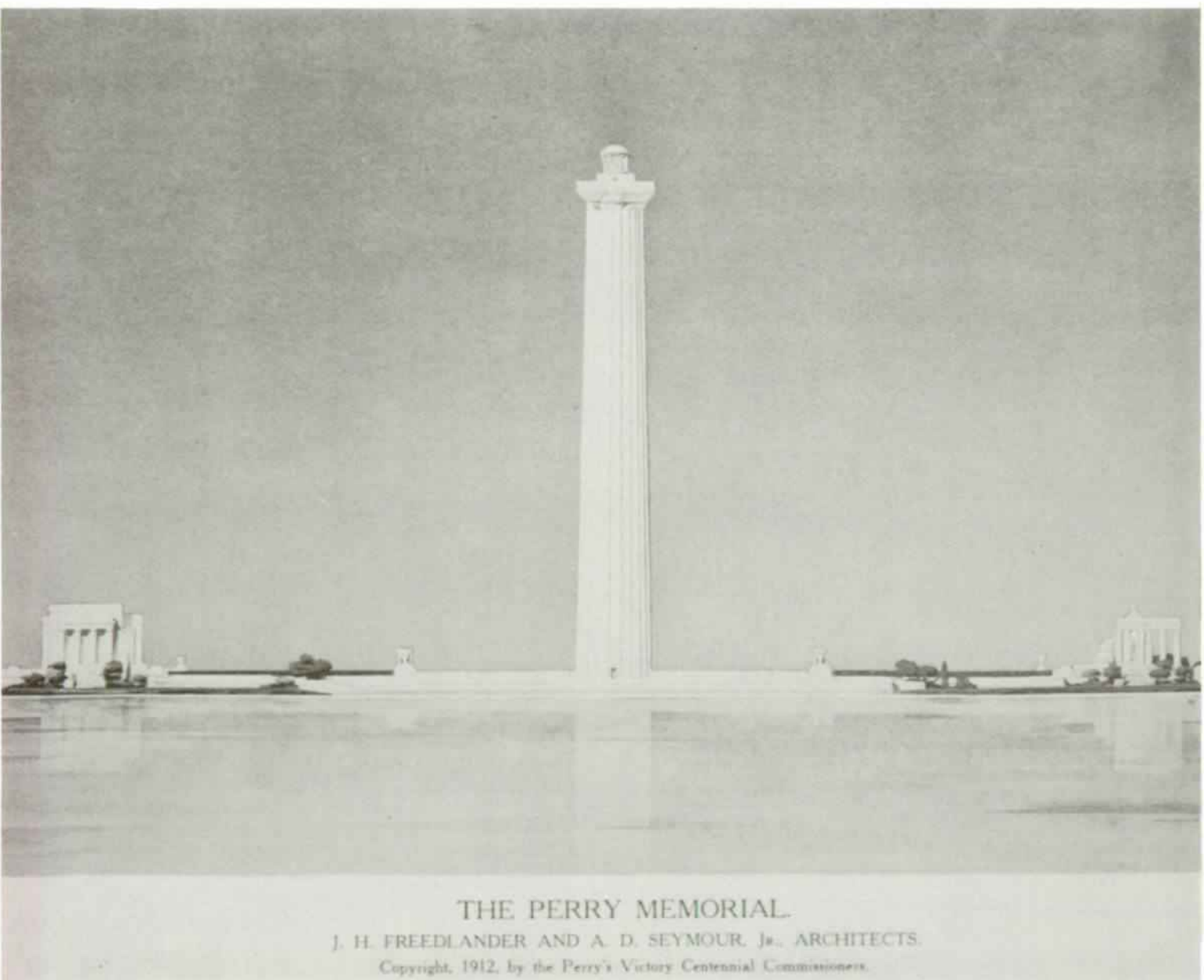
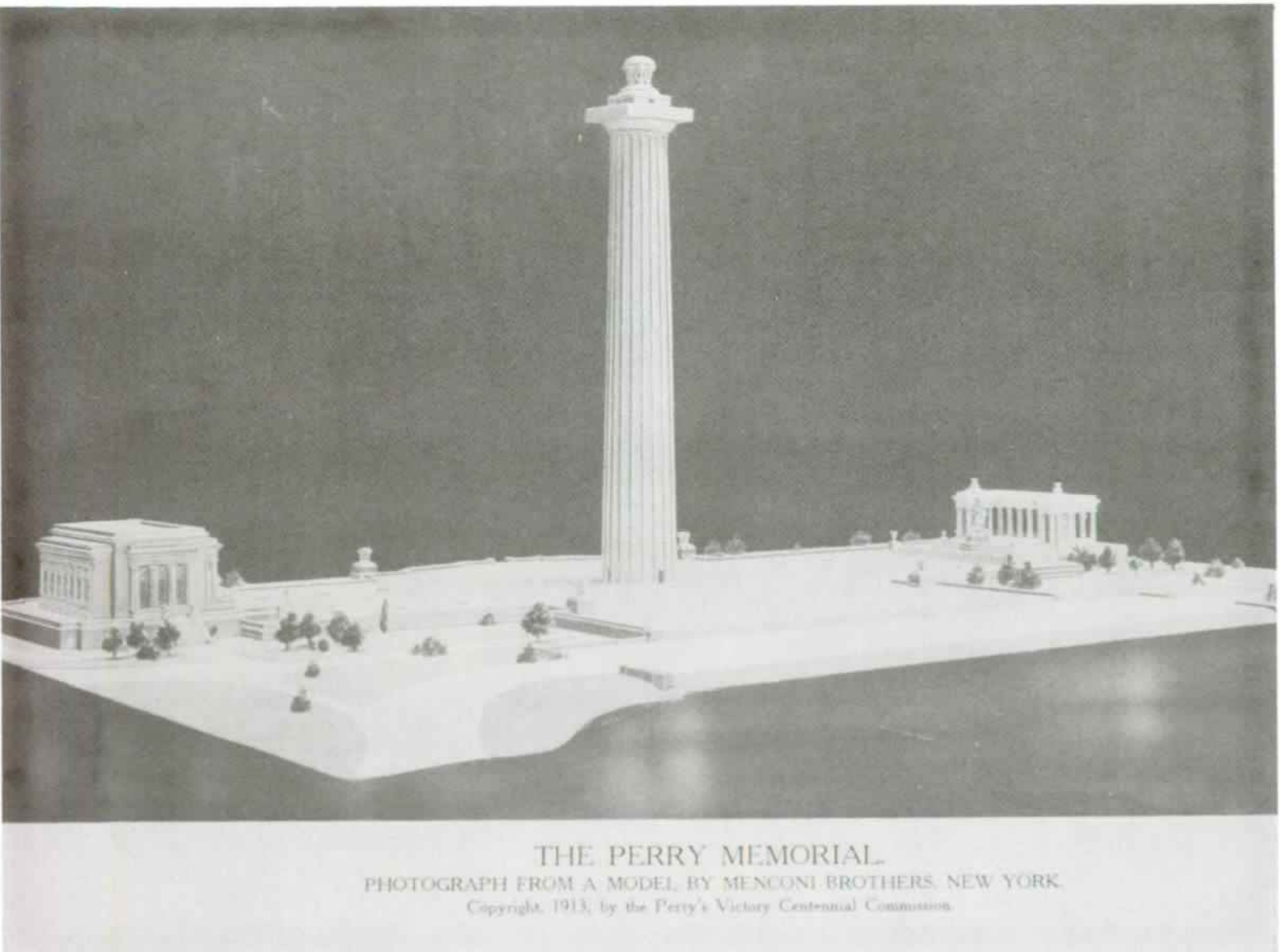




Fig. 9 Model of Freedlander's competition design, 1913. The model was destroyed in a fire at Put-in-Bay [from *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*].



discovered that the isthmus was one hundred feet narrower than originally thought. These discrepancies caused a delay in the preparation of the architects' drawings, including a substantial narrowing of the plaza. The extended concrete foundations also required additional funding.

The revised plans included all electrical units in the column, since the museum which had been designed to contain them would not be built. As stated by the Executive Committee on September 9, 1912:

"This column has been officially declared by the Inter-State [sic] Board as the Perry Memorial and the plaza and adjunct buildings are accessories thereto."

Freedlander and Seymour, however, prepared plans and specifications and obtained estimates for the complete ambitious original scheme -- as modified by borings and survey data -- hoping that it could one day be carried out.

### Site Clearing and Construction Begins

After John H. Feick of Sandusky, Ohio cleared the site (between June 24 and September 18) under a separate contract, the construction contractor, J. C. Robinson and Son promptly moved in equipment, built a dock, railroad, electric power plant and storehouse, installed a winch, set up a derrick, and started filling the marsh. He completed this work, and excavation and installation of the cofferdam for the column foundation by December 24, 1912. After inspection Henry W. Hodge, the structural engineer, recommended that the rock bed be roughly stepped off to avoid a steep incline. Robinson was anxious to start placing concrete immediately, but the architects refused permission due to approaching severe weather.

During the spring of 1913 the contractor removed accumulated water and mud and repaired the cofferdam. By late June a concrete cylinder foundation, about 9.5 feet thick and seated on bedrock, was poured to the future upper plaza level (approximately 22 feet), and the first course of granite was laid.

### Cornerstone-laying and Centennial Celebrations

The July 4, 1913 cornerstone-laying services and 500,000 visitors (attracted by promotional and commemorative events and fund-raising activities) slowed the construction work. But by early September progress was evident with a partially built column and rotunda.

At ceremonies in September 1913 celebrating the centennial of the Battle of Lake Erie, the governor of Ohio was the master of ceremonies and President William Howard Taft was the



featured speaker. J. A. MacDonald, editor of the *Toronto Globe*, was the principal Canadian representative. All the speakers stressed the role of the Memorial as a symbol of international peace among the United States, Britain and Canada.

The concrete infrastructure of both the upper and lower plazas were completed by 1915, when shortfalls in funding prevented completion of the construction contract. The visible portions of the plazas' superstructures (the parapet walls and curbing) were covered with a granite veneer. Paving of the level plaza surfaces would have to wait for over a decade.

The Memorial column itself was finally completed and opened to the public with no particular ceremony on June 13, 1915 (Fig. 10 on page 28). Twenty-two thousand paying visitors rode the column's elevator to the observation gallery by the September 16 closing. At this time landscaping had not yet begun, but the grounds had been partially cleared with some trees left by design.

### Plans for the Landscaping

At their annual meeting on September 10, 1914, the Interstate Board set aside \$122,000 for plazas and landscaping, affirming its intent to complete the original landscape design, even though the size of the plaza had been reduced substantially.<sup>11</sup> The Board at this time still honored Freedlander's desire that the plaza provide an architectural base for the column and space for exercises and ceremonies accommodating large assemblages, but by 1917 a special committee appointed to secure additional appropriations for the parking of the grounds no longer incorporated the museum and the colonnade among their objectives.<sup>12</sup> From this time on the members of the Interstate Board and its successor, the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, never even discussed allocating funds for the construction of the omitted buildings.<sup>13</sup>

Freedlander intended the lawns to remain a treeless horizontal plane to accentuate the central monument. He proposed to plant those places "not covered by the plaza with shrubs and to enclose the Memorial in a setting of landscape gardening, by means of paths, lawns, borders and

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<sup>11</sup> In May 1915 this sum was reduced by \$20,000 affecting mainly landscaping and planting.

<sup>12</sup> The term parking was widely used during the first three decades of the twentieth century to mean landscaping. Report of the meeting between the General Officers and the Federal Commissioners, Jan 6, 1917, PEVI.

<sup>13</sup> *Annual Meeting of the Interstate Board, Sep 10, 1917*, PEVI; Huntington to President of the Commission George H. Worthington, Oct 3, 1918, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Dec 2, 1918, PEVI; Huntington to Worthington, May 24, 1919; Federal Commissioner General J. Warren Keifer to Huntington, Jun 16, 1919, PEVI; Huntington to Worthington, Jan 22, 1920; Huntington to Worthington, Jan 26, 1920, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, May 1, 1920; Huntington to Worthington, May 12, 1920, PEVI; Huntington to Worthington, May 10, 1921, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Jun 17, 1921, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Jun 4, 1921, PEVI.



planting." The trees were to be carefully preserved so that their foliage would not only provide shade, but would also enhance the general color scheme.<sup>14</sup>

The original of Freedlander's competition drawing (Fig. 8) has not been located at this time. However, examination of the drawing included in the *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913* and of the landscaping contract reveals that Freedlander included dense plantings of shrubs and evergreens: 2,500 feet of privet hedge 3 feet high planted in double rows along the bay side, and 1,000 feet of barberry or privet hedge also 3 feet high to be planted in double rows along the lake side of the memorial.<sup>15</sup> The construction contract also specified massed plantings of trees and shrubs along the east and west boundaries of the property. These plantings were composed of a mixture of large deciduous trees, including maples, elms, lindens, catalpas, beech, birch, and white-flowering dogwood, other flowering trees, and low-growing flowering shrubs interspersed with Lombardy poplars and cedars.

Freedlander selected certain trees to be left standing when the site was cleared for construction. Perhaps his intent was to soften the transition between the highly formal architecture of the column and the native island vegetation. He also attempted to tie together the three elements of the composition -- the column, the colonnade, and the museum -- through a sward<sup>16</sup> 150 feet long and 75 feet wide. At either side two granite walks would be built leading from the museum and colonnade terraces to the plaza surrounding the column. These in turn were to be bordered with shrubs, bay-trees, flower beds and other accessories to make up a garden.<sup>17</sup>

The Interstate Board awarded the contract on October 27 to Stewart Engineering Corporation of New York which commenced levelling and filling of the plaza areas and continued with construction of the concrete superstructure of the upper plaza through the winter of 1914-1915. The contractors filled concrete girders, beams and column, as well as the column interior stairs

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<sup>14</sup> Joseph Henry Freedlander, "The Perry Memorial," in *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913* (1913), pp. 35-47.

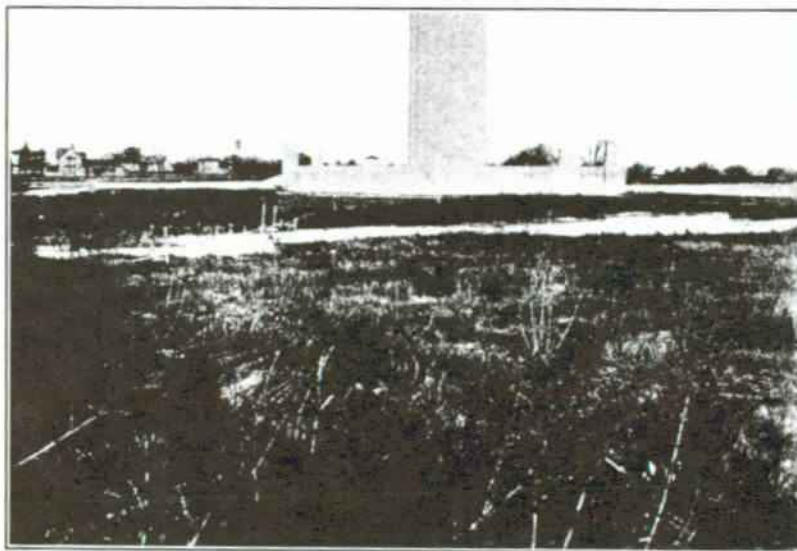
<sup>15</sup> *Contract for Construction of the Plaza and Landscaping of the Grounds Between Stewart Engineering Corporation and the Interstate Board of Perry's Victory Memorial, Oct. 27, 1914*, PEVI.

<sup>16</sup> A sward is an open lawn area.

<sup>17</sup> Joseph Freedlander, "The Perry Memorial," in *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Memorial* (1913), pp. 35-47 [this speech is included as Appendix B of this report]. Huntington later claimed he did not recall Freedlander ever making any plans (drawings) for the parking of the grounds, Huntington to Worthington, Jan 22, 1920, PEVI.



**Fig. 10** The Memorial after completion of column and plazas and before landscaping of the grounds [1926 *Commission Annual Report*].



with cement. He also completed the carved granite urns and pedestals at the four corners of the upper plaza by June 1915. But lack of funds prevented the paving of the upper plaza and completion of the landscaping.<sup>18</sup> This portion of the contract was suspended in the spring of 1915 and was the cause for animosity between Joseph Freedlander and some members of the Board.

#### 1916-1924: Construction of Seawalls/Filling of the Grounds

##### Building the North Seawall

Upon completion of the Memorial it became evident protection would be needed from fierce lake storms, and to prevent regression of the land on the southwest side of the column to marsh. S. M. Johannsen, the custodian of the monument until his death in 1925, reported in May 1916 that a recent storm had damaged the harbor shore of the memorial. As a result, the Interstate Board awarded a contract to the firm of Nicholas Fox & Sons to construct a retaining wall which was

<sup>18</sup> Stewart Engineering to Commissioners, May 7 and Oct 15, 1915, PVMCC.

completed late in the fall of 1916.<sup>19</sup>

At this time the Board declared that the original design of the Memorial should be preserved in its integrity in any measures for the parking of the grounds to be adopted and in the construction of any buildings which might be erected on the site. The Board also authorized a campaign to obtain appropriations from the federal government and the several states to fund landscaping of the grounds and facing the terrace with tile.<sup>20</sup>

### Need for a Southern Seawall

Early in 1917 custodian Johannsen informed the Board that unless another wall was built along the south shoreline, it would soon be eroded back to the foundation of the memorial. He was authorized to proceed and contract for the construction of such a wall, but he seemingly took no action at this time.<sup>21</sup>

The congressional appropriation of 1924 allowed the Commission to approve the construction of a seawall 992 feet in length along the south side of the Memorial. John Feick received the contract to complete this work for \$22,368. The next year (1925) he also paved the road along the bay shore and in 1929 built two other structures: a frame utility building at the southwest corner of the grounds that is currently used as the park headquarters, and a summer visitor kiosk which later was moved to the village park as an information booth.<sup>22</sup>

### Filling the Grounds

The Interstate Board addressed another major landscape problem in October 1918 when it authorized the spending of \$2,500 for filling the "swamp."<sup>23</sup> The completion of this project took several years and involved a series of contractors. Nicholas Fox and his son were among

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<sup>19</sup> Johannsen reported the damage to the Commission on May 10, 1916, PEVI; on August 17, 1916 a contract was awarded to Nicholas Fox & Sons, PVMCC. The total funds used in this project amounted to \$2,370.35, Sep 9, 1916, PEVI.

<sup>20</sup> *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Interstate Board*, September 9, 1916, PEVI.

<sup>21</sup> *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Interstate Board*, September 10, 1917, PEVI.

<sup>22</sup> *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Perry's Memorial Commission*, September 8, 1924, PEVI; *Perry's Memorial Commission Annual Report*, December 1, 1925, PEVI; *Perry's Memorial Commission Annual Report*, December 1, 1929, PEVI.

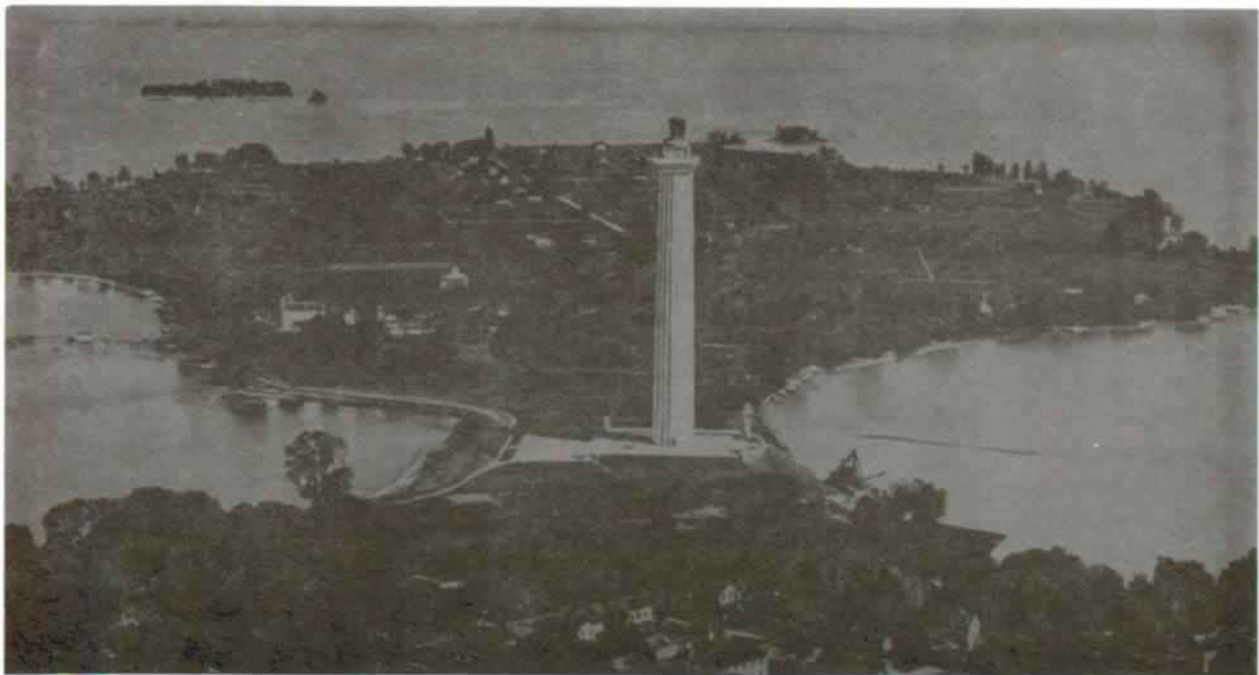
<sup>23</sup> Chapman's Swamp, located at the northwest side on the historic grounds. See Figure 24.



the first to attempt a remedy. They hauled 1,700 tons of sand and gravel from the east side to fill it in. They also obtained 25 tons of crushed stone from nearby Kelley's Island with the purpose of rebuilding the paths to the memorial.<sup>24</sup>

Filling the grounds proved to be a difficult problem. In June 1921 Johannsen, the custodian, informed the president of the Commission, George H. Worthington, that to get the estimated 16,440 cubic yards of crushed stone required to do an adequate job would cost a minimum of \$27,126 a sum which substantially exceeded the \$20,000 the state of Ohio had allocated for the job. The only alternative, he suggested, was to fill the swamp by dredging the material from the lake on the south side. He indicated that the LaBeau Wrecking Company was interested in doing the work and had presented a bid for \$17,000. The Board promptly accepted the offer. The November 1921 contract stipulated that the material taken from the lake should be dredged no closer than 10 feet to the retaining wall and no further into the lake than 70 feet from the said retaining wall (Fig. 11).<sup>25</sup>

Fig. 11 The Memorial with the LaBeau dredging equipment on the lake side (right) near the bathing beach, c.1921-1923 [from *The Perry's Victory Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio, Official Souvenir*].



<sup>24</sup> Huntington to Worthington, Oct 3, 1918, PEVI.

<sup>25</sup> Johannsen to Worthington, Jun 17, 1921, PEVI; Sisson to Worthington, Jun 20, 1921, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Jun 4, 1921, PEVI.

LaBeau's work ran into trouble from the beginning. Dredging was delayed initially when the dredge was unable to get up to the site due to low lake levels. Later, the dredge was disabled by a northeast storm, and finally the dredge was lost off Cedar Point. LaBeau decided to pull out because of the exposed condition to the open lake on the bathing beach, as he was only able to get his dredge out when the water was high and the wind blew offshore. By 1923 problems continued and LaBeau was still unable to finish. In November Johannsen informed Huntington that he doubted that LaBeau had put in more than 50 hours of filling during the four weeks he was at the site. The custodian attributed the delay to the general condition of the weather at this time of the year, but censured LaBeau for inefficient management and the dilapidated condition of his dredging outfit.<sup>26</sup>

By the summer of 1924 the Commission was threatening to cancel the filling contract; but during the fall, the work being almost completed, they gave LaBeau permission to dredge the south or bathing beach to prevent holding up the landscaping which was being started at the time. By December 1924, LaBeau officially finished. Unfortunately, the work failed to meet the requirements of Freedlander's plans and specifications. To compensate for this deficiency another contract was authorized with Nicholas Fox & Sons for \$792.80 to haul and transport about 850 cubic yards of clay from another site on the Island to the memorial and distribute the same. Unlike the previous contract, this work was completed quickly and efficiently.<sup>27</sup>

On March 3, 1919 Congress accepted the title to the Memorial, which had been ceded to the United States by the state of Ohio. The Interstate Board was reconstituted into the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, which would operate the monument until it became part of the National Park System in 1936.

### 1924-1926: Major Landscape Work Completed

In August 1924 Congress appropriated \$99,185 for improvement of the grounds and approaches to the memorial, parking, retaining wall, and facing of the upper and lower plazas with tile or

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<sup>26</sup> Johannsen to Worthington, Nov 9, 1921; *Contract with C. B. LaBeau Wrecking Company of Toledo, November 15, 1921*, PVMCC; Johannsen to Worthington, Nov. 19, 1921, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Jun 21, 1923, PEVI; Johannsen to Worthington, Oct 27, 1923, PEVI; Johannsen to Huntington, Nov 9, 1923, PVMCC; Huntington to Keifer, April 15, 1924, PVMCC.

<sup>27</sup> *Commissioners to LaBeau Wrecking Company, July 8, 1924*, PVMCC; Folsom to Huntington, Jul 8, 1924; Judson to Commission, July 15, 1924, PEVI; *Contract with Nicholas Fox & Sons, October 1, 1924*, PVMCC; Johannsen to Huntington, Nov 4, 1924, PVMCC; Huntington to Keifer, Nov 7, 1924, PVMCC; *Annual Report of the Perry's Victory Commission, December 1, 1924*, PEVI.



other suitable material. The legislation also stipulated that any surplus revenue accumulated from the operation of the memorial (except for a fund not to exceed \$20,000, to provide for depreciation costs of machinery in the light, power, and elevator plant of the Memorial) should be transferred into the United States Treasury by the Commission on the first Monday in December of each year.<sup>28</sup>

### Paving the Plazas

Almost half of the funds (\$47,250) of the 1924 Congressional allocation went to Stewart Engineering Corporation (later called Ambursen Construction Company) for paving the plazas of the Memorial. The upper and lower plazas were paved with Berea (Ohio) sandstone. However, there was a small amount of granite paving laid at this time: a single course of Milford pink granite, the same material used for the column exterior, was laid in a concentric ring at the column's base. Outside this ring there was a panel of dark red brick.<sup>29</sup>

John Feick was appointed superintendent of construction for this project because the commission members were "ill at ease about the performance of it [the contract] from the beginning." After his inspection Feick reported that many of the stones were "faultily laid and the levels not preserved as they should have been." A long dispute ensued between Feick and the contractor; however, after Freedlander inspected the site, he agreed with the report and the contractor was obliged to remedy the defects.<sup>30</sup>

By May 15, 1925 Ambursen and Company completed repairs and Feick finally approved the work. The contractor had resurfaced the entire lower terrace with an electric grinder which took off all the uneven joints and the cement stains. On the upper terrace he had taken up and reset a number of stones, removed acid stains, installed several drains to drain off the water in low places and remedied other defects.<sup>31</sup>

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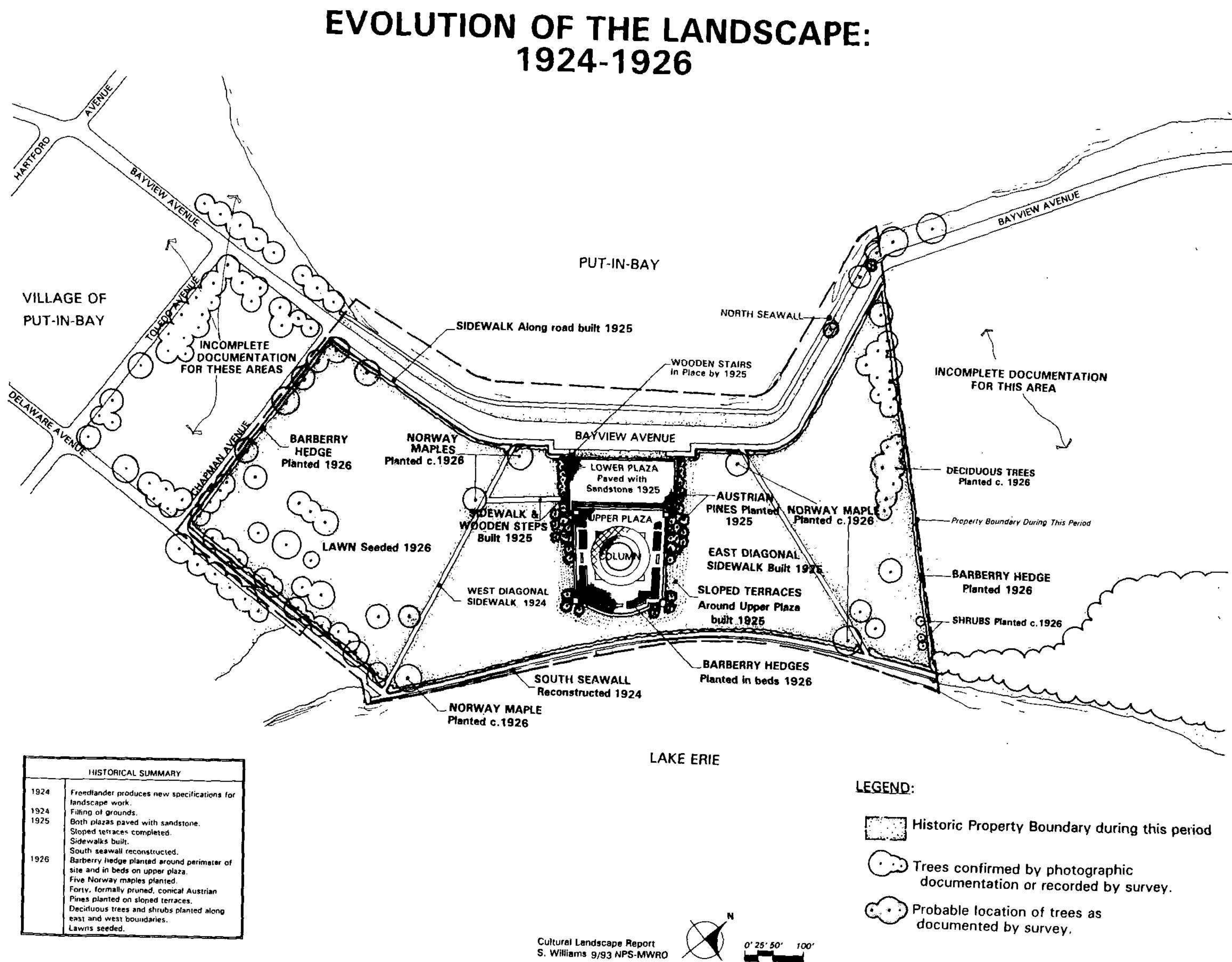
<sup>28</sup> *Minutes of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, August 1924, PEVI.*

<sup>29</sup> David G. Henderson, *Special Report: Proposed Repaving of the Memorial Plazas, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio* (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1977), p. 11.

<sup>30</sup> *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, August 1924, PEVI*; Johannsen to Huntington, Nov 1, 1924, PEVI; Huntington to Simon Adler, Nov 24, 1924, PVMCC; Huntington to Judge Richard Folsom, May 18, 1925, PVMCC.

<sup>31</sup> John Feick to Huntington, May 15, 1925, PVMCC; Huntington to Folsom, May 18, 1925, PVMCC; Stewart to Huntington, Jun 1, 1925, PVMCC.

Fig. 12 Evolution of the Landscape: 1924-1926 [by author].





## Landscaping Plans

Completion of the landscaping was a long and bitter process. It entailed a series of activities in addition to planting. Contractors were to level the site and construct walks, terraces, and drives. After the 1915 suspension of the Stewart contract due to lack of funds, relations between the Interstate Board and Freedlander started to deteriorate. Leading members, Secretary General Huntington and President George E. Worthington, began to express doubts about retaining Freedlander. Huntington claimed that he could not recall Freedlander ever making any plans for the parking of the grounds and asserted that the Commission owned all the plans "to do as we please."<sup>32</sup>

By May 1920 Freedlander submitted another landscape design, and expressed confidence that "with a little re-adjustment it might be possible to bring it within the limits of the appropriation." Huntington was not satisfied with the architect's new blueprint because it contemplated "many expensive and unnecessary things which would consume most of the appropriation." He hoped that with the remaining \$20,000 the Commission would be able to complete the filling and grading and put the land in grass seed, and recommended that the extended plazas and landscaping of the grounds be left for the future.<sup>33</sup>

## Greening's Design

By 1921 the Commissioners began to search for an alternative to Freedlander. President Worthington approached Charles E. Greening, who owned a nursery company in Monroe, Michigan, to design a landscape plan for the memorial (Fig. 13). Lack of funds was foremost on the minds of the Commissioners and Greening promoted his plan as "more attractive, more suggestive and less expensive to carry out than the original [1912] plan designed by the building architect [Freedlander]." Other firms continued to be interested in the project. Henry A. Jencks, the president of Hyland-Jencks, a landscape engineering firm located in New York City, corresponded regularly with Worthington and Huntington reminding them of his interest in submitting additional plans.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Huntington to Worthington, May 19, 1924, PEVI; Keifer to Huntington, Jun 16, 1919, PEVI; Huntington to Worthington, Jan 22, 1920, PEVI.

<sup>33</sup> Freedlander's 1920 design has not been located to date. Freedlander to Worthington, May 3, 1920, PEVI; Freedlander to Worthington, May 11, 1920, PEVI; Huntington to Worthington, May 12, 1920, PEVI.

<sup>34</sup> Charles E. Greening to Johannsen, Sep 22, 1921, PEVI; Jencks to Worthington, Nov 19, 1918, PEVI; Jencks to Worthington, Aug 25, 1921, PEVI; Jencks to Worthington, Sep 21, 1921, PEVI; Landscaping bids, Feb 2, 1925, PVMCC.

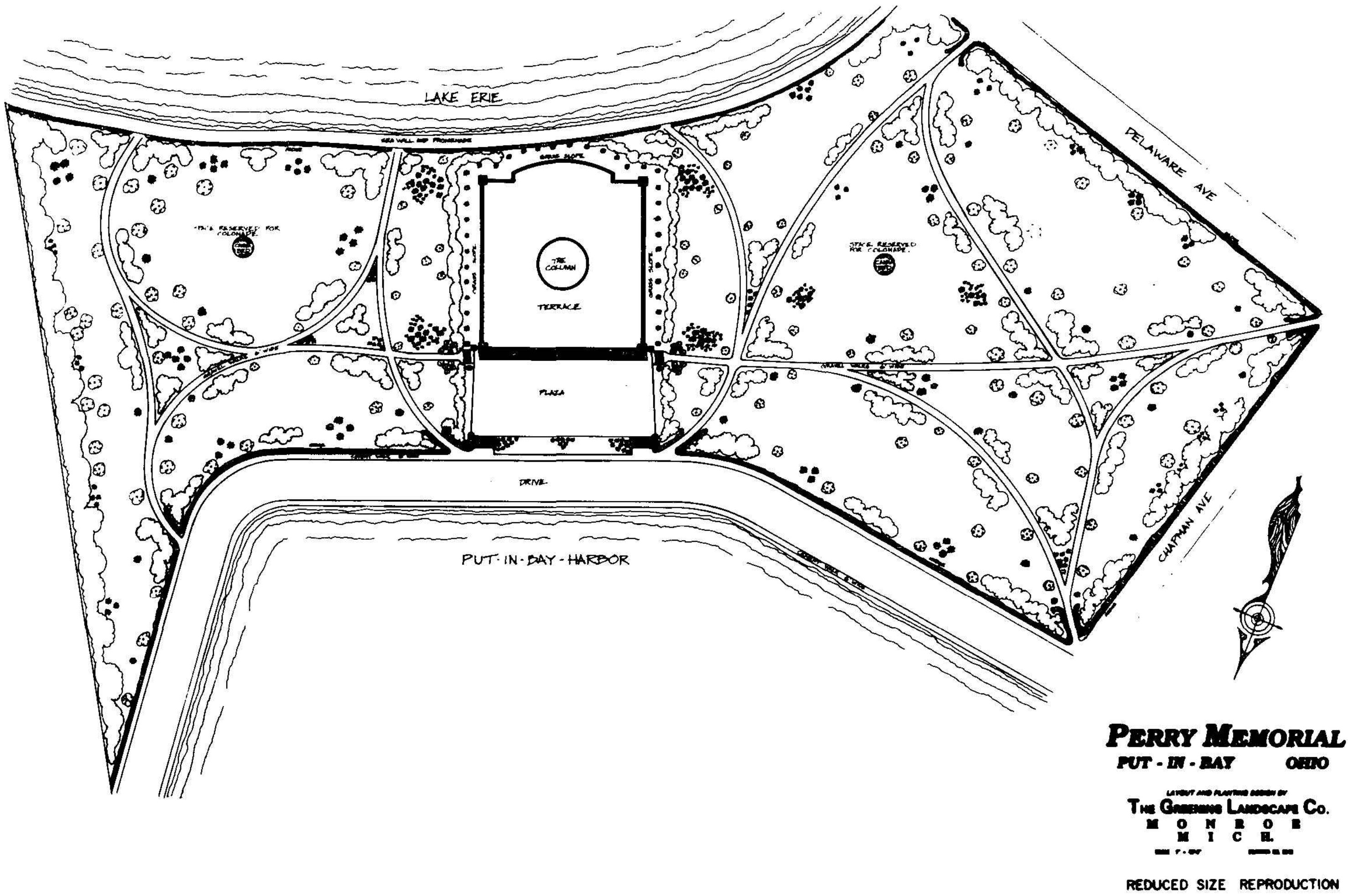


Fig. 13 Greening's proposed landscaping plan, 1921 [copied from the original by NPS/DSC staff].



Greening gave the project a great deal of thought and submitted a design in October 1921. He intended to create an arboretum of carefully selected varieties of plants and trees which would at once become a wonderful educational feature for the study of hardy flowers, trees, and plants. He included a collection of shrubs that would be in bloom during June, July and August. The varieties of plants and trees would be marked with botanical and common names for natural study. The design was extremely ambitious including 7,466 trees, evergreens, shrubs, roses, hedges, and perennial flowers.<sup>35</sup>

Greening provided for curvilinear gravel walks to be six feet wide and a cement walk also six feet wide that would extend "way across the front." He was proud of the curvilinear walk system leading in every direction throughout the park and touching important points. Drainage pipes were to be laid directly under the walks throughout the park so as to prevent roots of shrubs and trees to get in the tile. He also worked out figures for terrace grading, an irrigation system, and a cost estimate which included construction of the south seawall which John Feick would build in 1925.<sup>36</sup>

Greening believed that such a design would be valuable because it would attract numerous school and college classes with their teachers during the summer months. According to its creator this planting would not increase the cost, but Greening admitted that it would require someone of experience and knowledge of the habit and character of all varieties of hardy plants and trees to implement. He pledged that if the work were to be undertaken, he would personally select every tree and plant required for the landscape and that he would arrange the plantings in an orderly manner for educational study.<sup>37</sup>

He mailed the plan on October 1921 adding detailed drawings of the proposed splash sea wall for the south side of the monument. He remarked that in his design he aimed to carry out the original views of Freedlander regarding the planting of trees, shrubs, and evergreens. The large trees were confined entirely to the east and west boundary lines ensuring that the perspective from the water was unobstructed by large trees. The east and west (original) boundaries were also to be treated with a heavy mass planting of dwarf trees, shrubs and a few evergreens for a "good effect." Heavy clusters of pyramidal evergreens 12 feet or more in height were to be planted at the two sides of the terrace with smaller trees filled in. The hedges were to consist of Amur River privet, a hardy and thrifty plant that would form compact plantings close to 3 feet wide.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Greening to Worthington, Oct 6, 1921, PEVI; Greening, *Perry Memorial Landscape Planting Specifications for Spring 1922*, PEVI.

<sup>36</sup> Greening to Worthington, October 6, 1921, PEVI.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Greening to Worthington, October 21, 1921, PEVI; Greening to Worthington, October 24, 1921, PEVI.



### Freedlander's Design

At the same time Freedlander, the original architect, continued to assume that his design would be the one to be adopted and he requested estimates for the completion of the landscape work about the monument, including supplying and spreading soil, fertilizing, sodding of the terraces, seeding, grading and rolling, construction of paths, planting, labor, construction of the driveway, and special supervision. He also requested estimates from other firms for "stone and brick paving."

Freedlander informed Huntington that he intended the upper and lower terraces to be made of sandstone, the former decorated with a circular decorative band in brick. He indicated that the parking of the grounds was to be laid out as shown on the drawings since he was convinced that no part of this work could be modified without destroying the harmony and artistic appearance of the scheme as executed to that time.<sup>39</sup>

At the Commission's annual meeting in Cleveland late in October 1921 Greening's design was recommended and approved, but no funds were available to complete the work at the time.<sup>40</sup> Two years later the appropriation had still not materialized, but conflict between the original architect and the Commissioners continued. In October 1923 Freedlander sent two landscape architects to the site of the memorial to give estimates on his original plans. Johannsen, the site custodian, informed Greening of this visit and asked him to get in touch with Freedlander, "for it appears now that contrary to the opinion of the General Officers...Freedlander will be the architect until the Memorial is completed." President Worthington was not sure if there was anything in existence that bound the Commission to the original architect for anything more than what they had already paid for. Johannsen believed that at the annual meeting nobody had objected when Freedlander stated that he would be in charge as architect of all the unfinished work.<sup>41</sup>

Huntington, the Commission secretary (and later president), wanted to sever the association with Freedlander and wrote to Worthington in November 1923 arguing that the architect's original contract was not with the present board and therefore he could not have any claim as architect. He stressed that Greening's plan had been recommended because it required an outlay of approximately \$19,000 compared with the \$59,000 needed to execute Freedlander's design. He also told Johannsen that he did not think that they were bound to accept Freedlander's estimate

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<sup>39</sup> Frederick Smythe to Freedlander, October 15, 1921, PVMCC; Freedlander to Huntington, October 25, 1921. The whereabouts of Freedlander's 1920 landscape plans are not known.

<sup>40</sup> Huntington to Worthington, Nov 18, 1921, PEVI.

<sup>41</sup> Greening to Louis C. Cranton, Jan 7, 1923, PVMCC; Johannsen to Worthington, Oct 27, 1923, PEVI; Worthington to Huntington, Nov 6, 1923, PVMCC; Greening to Huntington, Nov 7, 1923, PVMCC; Huntington to Greening, Nov 9, 1923, PVMCC; Johannsen to Greening, Nov 9, 1923, PVMCC.



or to have him supervise the work because there was a waiver of his original contract under the terms of which he had relinquished all claims to do the work unless it could be done for the original price of \$20,000.<sup>42</sup>

At the same time Greening continued to work on his plans and to make suggestions about the original design. He believed that the original landscape development proposed by Freedlander was marred by errors. For example, Freedlander forgot to place steps on the sides of the plaza to connect with the ground terraces he proposed to have built on each side, and no mention was made of elevations that would provide for proper drainage of the grounds. Moreover, Greening noted that some of the architect's blueprints suggested a wide terrace branching out on each side of the plaza, five or six feet high for a distance of about 200 feet and ending with a "colonial building" on either side which would not be in keeping with the idea of the column rising out of the water when viewed from a distance.<sup>43</sup>

Greening maintained interest in the project and suggested the use of dirt instead of crushed stone to fill in two places on the Memorial grounds. He felt that if much of the stone was used it might interfere with the planting of trees and shrubs and that little would be gained from an economical standpoint. He suggested as well the construction of an artificial pool, "one of the most appropriate things you could put on the grounds." He was convinced that such a feature would save a lot of money in the way of filling the low places. He envisioned a rustic edge around the sides of the pool with a rustic fountain, possibly made of the rare tufa, crystal or the limestone which abounds in the area.<sup>44</sup>

Early in 1924, with the required appropriation at hand, both Greening and Freedlander assumed they would be responsible for the landscaping. This misunderstanding was partly due to the advanced age of some members of the commission. President Worthington was not doing well. After Worthington's death the new president, Huntington, commented that "it might not be quite correct to say that for a long time prior to his death he did not know what he was doing, but it is certain that concerning most things he did not know what he had done." Worthington failed to explain clearly both to Greening and Freedlander the intentions of the Commission.<sup>45</sup>

Freedlander assumed he was entitled to a sole and long-term association with the memorial. He often exasperated Huntington and Worthington by making decisions and authorizing trips and

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<sup>42</sup> Huntington to Worthington, Nov 9, 1923, PVMCC; Johannsen to Huntington, Nov 9, 1923, PVMCC; Greening to Huntington, Nov 12, 1923, PVMCC; Worthington to Huntington, Nov 14, 1923, PVMCC; Huntington to Johannsen, Nov 15, 1923, PVMCC.

<sup>43</sup> Greening to Huntington, Dec 26, 1923, PVMCC; Greening to Huntington, Jan 15, 1924, PVMCC.

<sup>44</sup> Greening to Huntington, Jan 15, 1924, PVMCC; Huntington to Greening, Jan 18, 1924, PVMCC.

<sup>45</sup> Huntington to Freedlander, Jan 18, 1924.



estimates without consulting the members of the Commission. By May 1924 friction increased. Extensive correspondence between Johannsen and Huntington reveals their irritation with Freedlander. Johannsen noted on May 4 that Freedlander would insist that he have full control of the designs necessary to complete the work. The custodian wondered why, since the original architect would have to change his landscaping design, couldn't Greening submit his plan to Freedlander for approval and adoption, with perhaps only slight modifications which would enhance his chances of getting the contract. Johannsen favored Greening because he was from nearby Michigan, and would be able to give the work more attention and have more pride in seeing the job well-done than someone from Maine or Long Island. Huntington agreed, but doubted that either one of the estimates would be accepted as submitted. He was convinced that Freedlander understood that the Greening plans for parking had been recommended for adoption. Huntington felt that the Commission should decide as to the status of Freedlander as architect of the memorial and remarked that everybody with whom he had discussed the subject agreed that the architect could not possibly have any permanent status of that kind. So far no document has been found explaining why the Commission abandoned Greening's plan and decided to adopt the work of the original architect, but subsequent correspondence suggests that Freedlander might have threatened legal action.<sup>46</sup>

On May 26, 1924 Freedlander wrote to Huntington informing him that he had produced a complete new set of specifications for the terraces which he had sent to Cleveland contractors for estimates. He had also been working on the plans for the parking of the grounds (Fig. 14) and had received a \$35,000 estimate for that job. He stressed that the late Worthington had never consulted with him nor had sent him any information regarding bids for the landscape work and the terraces.<sup>47</sup>

Once the appropriation for the landscaping was approved, four contractors presented estimates; however, all were in excess of the funds available. In view of this the Building Committee requested on July 3 that Freedlander redraft the existing plans and specifications and submit

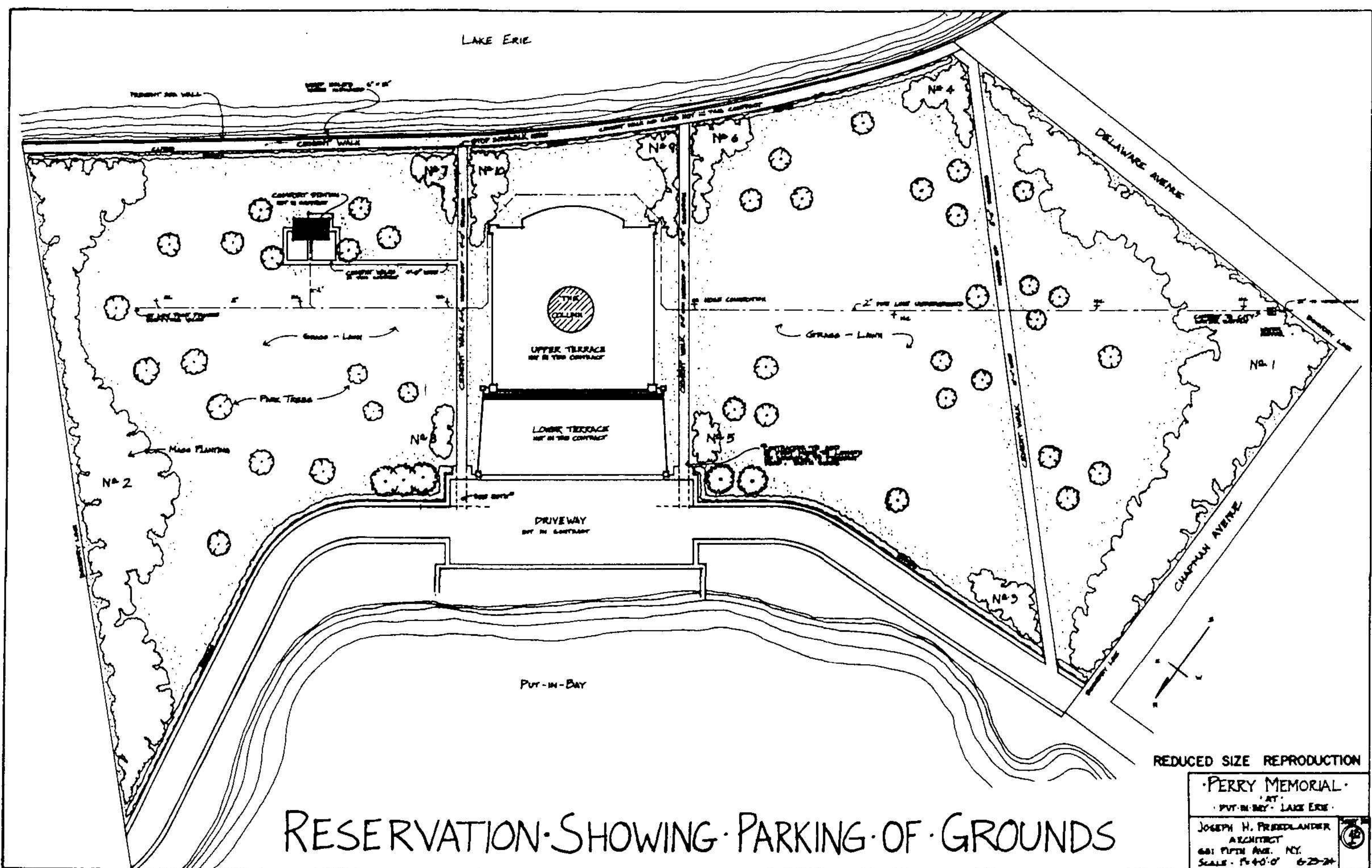
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<sup>46</sup> Johannsen to Huntington, May 4, 1924, PVMCC; Huntington to Johannsen, May 7, 1924, PVMCC; Johannsen to Huntington, May 21, 1924, PVMCC. After the landscaping was almost completed Freedlander submitted a bill which angered Huntington. The architect believed that he was entitled to a six percent commission for his design of the comfort station even though it was never built because of lack of funds. The correspondence between Freedlander and Huntington reveals an angry tone, although it is not possible at this time to ascertain how the disagreement was finally resolved. In 1925 Huntington was still questioning Freedlander's claim and felt that arbitration might be necessary to solve the issue (Huntington to Folsom, October 23, 1925, PVMCC). During 1926 relations between Freedlander and Huntington were still far from cordial (Freedlander to Huntington, January 6, 1926, PVMCC; Huntington to Treasurer General A. E. Sisson, January 14, 1926; Freedlander to Huntington, March 24, 1926, PVMCC).

<sup>47</sup> Freedlander to Huntington, May 26, 1924; Freedlander to Huntington, Jun 5, 1924, PVMCC; Joseph H. Freedlander, *Specifications of Labor to be Performed and Materials to be Furnished for the Alterations and Repairs to the Column of the Perry Victory Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio for the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission* (1924).



Fig. 14 Freedlander's second plan, 1924 [copied from original by NPS/DSC staff].



them only to the two lowest bidders, who were the firms of Wadley and Smythe of New York and the Greening Nursery Company of Monroe, Michigan. The Commission also unanimously agreed that Freedlander's new plans were desirable in most respects, but could not be accepted as a whole on account of the lack of funds.<sup>48</sup> The redrafting would need to comply with changed locations due to the encroachment of the water on the south side of the memorial. The Building Committee also decided that a concrete walk across the front of the Memorial property should be provided as well as diagonal concrete walks through the grounds connecting the bathing beach to the northwest corner of the lower plaza and connecting the northeast corner of the lower plaza to the southeast corner of the grounds. The walk along the front was to be eight feet wide and the other walks six feet wide (see Fig. 5, page 16).<sup>49</sup> This is the first mention of the "angular" or diagonal orientation of the walks. It is possible that Greening's design may have suggested the idea to Freedlander or to the Commission. In addition, barberry hedges were to be planted along Chapman Avenue and along both the north and south boundaries to define the area of the memorial property. However, only grass was indicated for planting in the panel beds on the upper plaza.<sup>50</sup> Provision was to be made to spread the necessary topsoil, sow grass seed over the entire site and sod the terraces surrounding the memorial. Furthermore the majority of the shrubs and trees provided for in the previous plans would have to be eliminated as well as the proposed comfort station. The plans and specifications as redrafted had to contemplate estimates not to exceed the sum of \$24,500.<sup>51</sup>

As soon as the congressional appropriation was secured, Greening corresponded with Freedlander. Greening informed the architect of his interest to submit a bid for the landscaping work and made suggestions for improving the design. He noted that the 45-degree sloped terraces would make mowing and irrigation difficult. Greening also called Freedlander's attention to an error in the drawing on the south side of the property which indicated the distance from the terrace wall to the plaza to be about 80 feet, whereas the engineer's plan showed 30 feet, which was the same as Greening had calculated for his own plans. This error would make two, and possibly three, of Freedlander's plantings on his earlier plan impossible.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> The June 1924 drawing by Freedlander titled "Sheet 1B, Reservation Showing Parking of Ground" is, apparently, this new plan. The redrafted plan requested in July has not been located, if it was ever done.

<sup>49</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission Report for 1924*, PEVI.

<sup>50</sup> Although grass was specified by Freedlander's 1924 plan, barberry hedging was planted during the 1924-26 construction period. The barberry was removed in the late 1930s, and the panels have been planted in grass since that time.

<sup>51</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission Report for 1924*, PEVI.

<sup>52</sup> Greening to Freedlander, August 11, 1924, PEVI.



By August 1924 Greening was quite disheartened and reminded Huntington of all the time and effort he had invested in this project. He advised him of the bid that he had submitted to Freedlander and concluded his letter saying that he was "sending the bid with the idea that it will not be accepted, although it has been figured to the last notch for first class work and material." His bid for \$48,740 was substantially higher than that submitted by Wadley and Smythe for \$29,896. Apparently the Commission requested new estimates but by this time Greening decided that he could no longer afford to continue his involvement with the project. Freedlander informed Custodian Johannsen of Greening's decision to withdraw and strongly recommended accepting the bid of Wadley and Smythe.<sup>53</sup>

### Landscaping Finally Underway

By October 1924 the Commission again decided to trim expenses. They just could not afford to pay \$12,000 for the comfort station and the steps leading to the lower plaza were also canceled because they would have been more expensive than expected. Johannsen recommended that the landscaping should be done according to Freedlander's redrafted plans and specifications, which included plenty of top soil, a barberry hedge all around, a cluster of Austrian pines on each corner of the memorial, a good lawn, plenty of water pipes for sprinkling, and three walks (one on each side of the Memorial and the other along the road on the north side). He believed that this could be accomplished with the funds at hand and would give the memorial a finished appearance.<sup>54</sup>

Wadley and Smythe were able to decrease the cost of their contract by reducing the size of the sidewalks crossing the park from eight to seven feet and by reducing the diameter of galvanized pipe to be used in plumbing to 1-1/2 inches instead of 2 inches as called for in the specifications. Huntington suggested that further cut backs could be possible. For example, he believed that it was unnecessary for the concrete sidewalks to be 11 inches deep and presumed that they were not getting the most economical scheme for landscaping as to shrubbery and trees. The final estimate was reduced to \$23,000, but it did not include the planting of any trees and the shrubbery. President Huntington and Custodian Johannsen attempted to convince Frederick Smythe to include in the bid the Austrian pines around the plazas because they would make the site look dressy. Smythe finally assured them that if the contract were to produce a profit of

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<sup>53</sup> Greening to Huntington, August 11, 1924, PEVI; Greening to Freedlander, September 26, 1924, PEVI; Huntington to Greening, October, 1924, PEVI; Freedlander to Johannsen, October 2, 1924, PEVI.

<sup>54</sup> Johannsen to Freedlander, Oct 7, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Huntington, Oct 7, 1924, PEVI.



10 percent he would furnish and plant the pines before he left the job.<sup>55</sup>

On November 1, 1924, as Smythe began landscaping, Johannsen engaged a new caretaker for the grounds. He promised John Rehberg \$100 a month, and commented that it was impossible to hire any one worthwhile for this work at less salary because the hedge enclosing the whole site would need considerable care and attention.<sup>56</sup>

Smythe worked hard and invested considerable effort and funds, more than \$7,500 by January 1925, without receiving any remuneration. Judge Richard S. Folsom was in charge of preparing contracts and disbursing funds for the Commission, but (according to Huntington) suffered mental lapses. By April 1925 Smythe had received neither contract nor payment, so he threatened not to resume his work. He still had to wait two additional months before Folsom approved the contract and remuneration.<sup>57</sup>

The contractor, Smythe, continued with the landscape work in the spring of 1925. By August the construction of the paths was completed and only the seeding and planting remained to be done. In September questions arose regarding a barberry hedge along Chapman Avenue. Freedlander acknowledged that such a hedge around the entire reservation had been included in the plans. Before work stopped in the fall Smythe planted 1,300 barberry shrubs (*Berberis* sp.) to encircle the site and outlining the panel beds of the upper plaza. About this time it also became clear that a lot more would have to be done to improve the drainage of the west side of the grounds which, after a couple of days of rain, was "like a sponge." Smythe was to perform the additional work (not contemplated by the plans and specifications) of filling around the foundations of the Memorial on the south side. Additional funds (\$1,852) were appropriated for the work.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> Wadley and Smythe's estimate (Document has no title and no date), PEVI; Freedlander to Johannsen, Oct 9, 1924, PEVI; Huntington to Johannsen, Oct 9, 1924, PEVI; Fox to Wadley and Smythe, Oct 11, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Freedlander, Oct 12, 1924, PEVI; Smythe to Johannsen, Oct 14, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Freedlander, Oct 15, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Wadley and Smythe, Oct 16, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Sisson, Oct 16, 1924, PEVI; Johannsen to Huntington, Oct 16, 1924, PEVI.

<sup>56</sup> Johannsen to Huntington, Dec 18, 1924, PVMCC.

<sup>57</sup> Folsom to Johannsen, January 5, 1925, PEVI; Johannsen to Folsom, January 13, 1925, PEVI; Johannsen to Wadley and Smythe, January 13, 1925, PEVI; Folsom to Johannsen, January 20, 1925, PEVI.

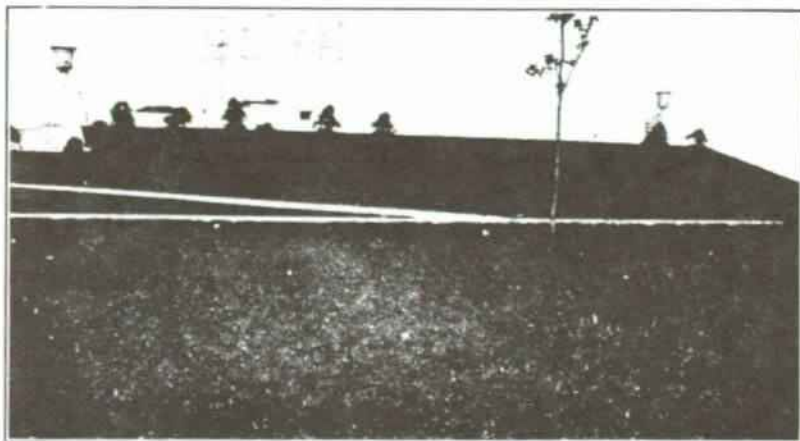
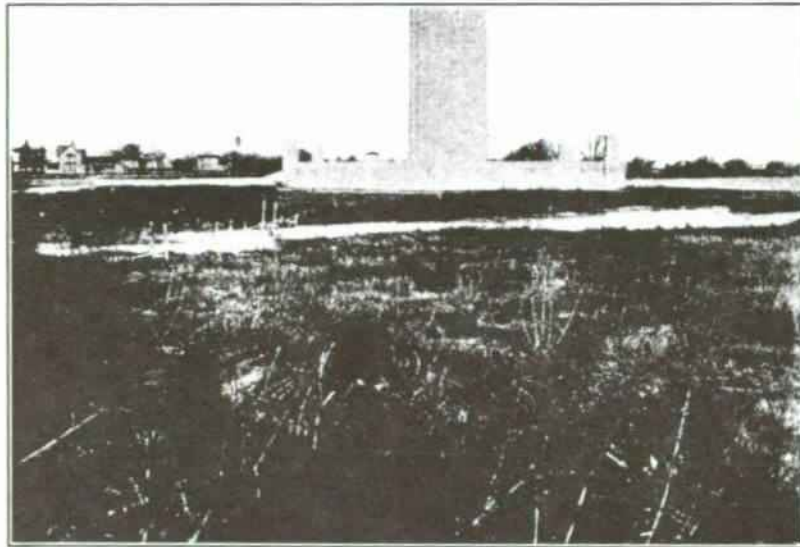
<sup>58</sup> Johannsen to Huntington, June 15, 1925, PEVI; Smythe to Huntington, August 26, 1925, PVMCC; Huntington to Freedlander, September 21, 1925, PVMCC; Huntington to Schnoor, September 21, 1925, PVMCC; Schnoor to Huntington, September 25, 1925, PVMCC; Freedlander to Huntington, Sep 25, 1925, PVMCC; Huntington to Keifer, May 31, 1926, PVMCC.



In October William Schnoor, the new custodian replacing Johannsen who had died,<sup>59</sup> reported that the landscaping was almost completed and that grass had already appeared, but also noted that a substantial amount of water was standing in different places on the west side. He recommended putting in some additional draining tile and suggested that it would be best to take care of it then, although he realized that shortage of funds made it necessary to wait another year to take care of the situation. Inclement weather prevented Smythe from completing his contract in 1925; the seeding of the west side was postponed until the soil could be adequately drained.<sup>60</sup>

In its December 1925 annual report the Commission laid the ground for future improvements hoping that the Secretary of the Interior would recommend and Congress would provide the means to effect certain modifications in the Memorial and grounds. Suggested by experience and in the interest

Fig. 15 The *Commissioner's Report for 1926* illustrated the accomplishments achieved with the federal appropriations.



<sup>59</sup> Schnoor was to remain as custodian (superintendent) of the Memorial until some time after it was transferred to the National Park Service.

<sup>60</sup> Schnoor to Huntington, October 27, 1925, PVMCC; Huntington to Folsom, October 28, 1925, PVMCC; Schnoor to Huntington, October 30, 1925, PVMCC; *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, Annual Report, December 1925*, PEVI.

of a profitable operation, the recommendations included a flight of three or four granite steps from the lower plaza to the level of the road in front of the Memorial and a flight of ten or twelve steps about 10 feet wide to be built on the west side of the lower plaza from the level of the concrete walks in the grounds to the level of the plaza. These would replace the temporary wooden steps which had been in place since 1924.<sup>61</sup>

In the spring of 1926 the final landscaping was completed (Fig. 15). The Commission reported that, "...the shrubbery forming a berberis [barberry] hedge along the entire front, southerly on Chapman Avenue to the southwest corner of the grounds and easterly along the sea wall to the end thereof," had suffered no material loss since its planting during the previous fall, that "...the line of Chapman Avenue defined by said hedge had been satisfactorily straightened, that the autumn seeding on the east side had produced a lawn as perfect as could be expected and that the spring seeding on the west side was showing green over a considerable area." The report added that the evergreen planting around the terraces was in good condition, that certain drainage pipes were laid on the west side, that others were in the process of being laid, and that catch basins had been or were being provided to carry off excess water beneath the soil into the lake.<sup>62</sup>

The Commission appeared satisfied with the completed work on the grounds, but problems arose when Smythe submitted a bill for the trees and shrubs he had furnished that were not a part of the contract. Smythe claimed on June 15, 1926 that the late Johannsen had agreed that the plantings would be paid for out of Memorial revenues. The itemized bill indicated that, in addition to the 1,300 barberry shrubs, the following had been planted: 36 hardy flowering shrubs, 40 large clipped Austrian pines, and 10 large maples. Huntington replied that the amount (\$1,516.30) was much larger than he expected and felt certain that Johannsen would not have approved had he known how expensive they would be. It is not clear if Smythe ever received payment for the trees and shrubs, but it is doubtful that Johannsen would have approved the plantings without consulting Huntington first.<sup>63</sup>

The December 1926 *Annual Report* stated that all landscaping contracts, covered by congressional appropriations, were completed during Spring 1926; although 2 bills were unpaid and awaiting approval by the Comptroller. The Commission felt that "...the result [from the construction and landscaping contracts] has given the memorial an incomparable physical setting, destined to become even more attractive in future years."<sup>64</sup> In their opinion, additional

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<sup>61</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission Annual Report, December 1925*, PEVI.

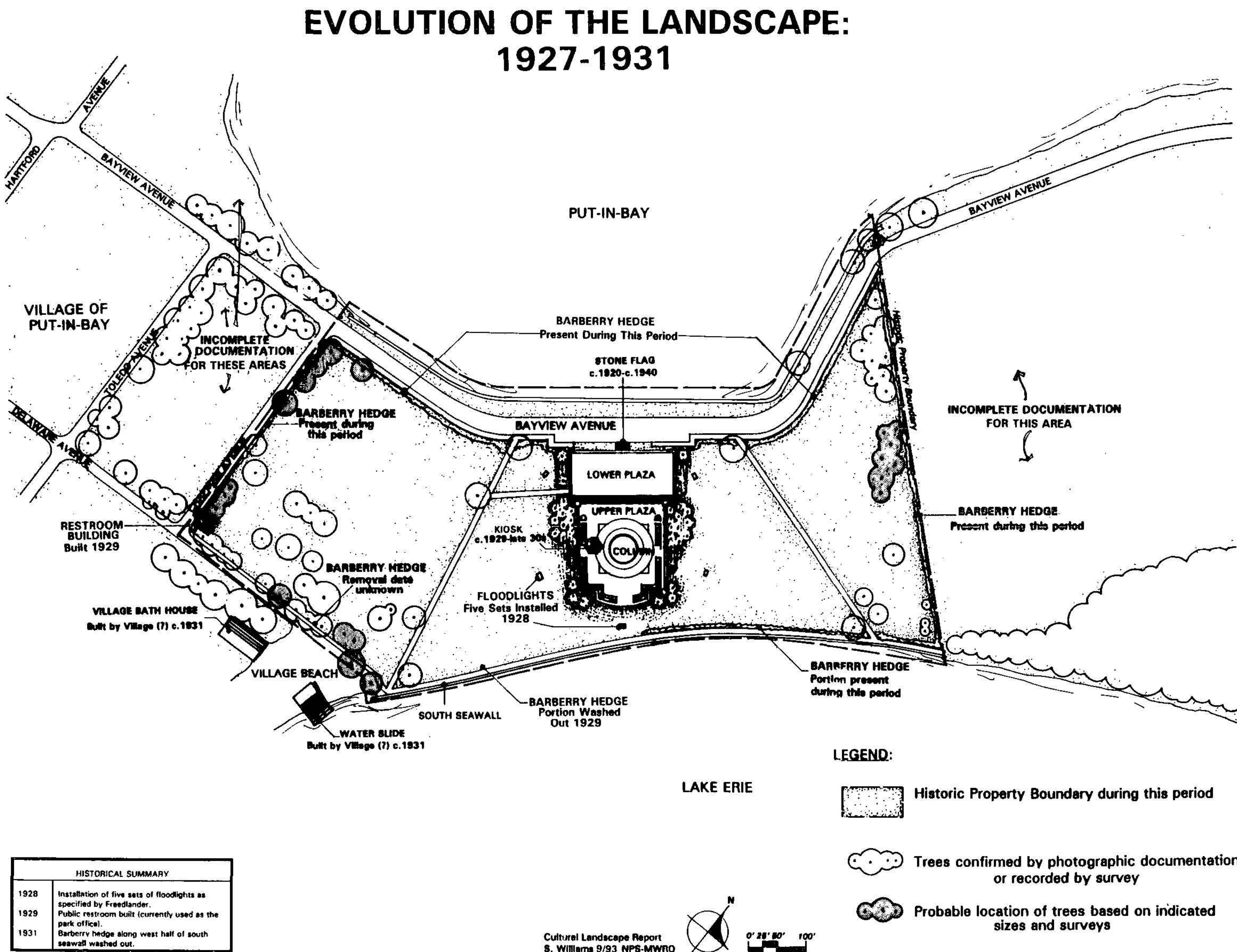
<sup>62</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, May 24, 1926 Report*, PEVI.

<sup>63</sup> Wadley and Smythe to Huntington, Jun 15, 1926, PVMCC; Huntington to Smythe, Jul 1, 1926, PVMCC. Correspondence does not mention Smythe's promise to furnish the trees and shrubs if he made a 10 percent profit.

<sup>64</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, December 1, 1926 Report*, PEVI, p. 7.



Fig. 16 Evolution of the Landscape: 1927-1931 [by author].



monies were needed to cover the construction of: 1) granite stairs from the front of the lower plaza to the street and a smaller stairs at the west corner of the lower plaza; 2) lighting of the plazas and grounds; 3) a restroom and utility building; 4) bronze tablets inside the memorial; and 5) an underground telephone cable. Achievement of these "further improvements" was only partially successful in later years.<sup>65</sup>

Fig. 17 The dedication ceremonies held on July 31, 1931 [17-4-29].



<sup>65</sup> Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, *December 1, 1926 Report*, PEVI, p. 7.



### 1927-1931: Interim Modifications of the Designed Landscape

#### The Memorial is Finally Completed

In 1928 Congress appropriated the sum of \$7,374 for the proper electric lighting of the memorial plazas and grounds, a sum that was augmented by additional financing on the part of the commission to a total of \$9,839. The landscaping was considered finished, and the annual report spoke of dealing with the administration of a practically completed Memorial requiring no additional funds for construction and improvements. Unfortunately the inclement weather of 1929 created considerable damage as unprecedented high water levels and storms during the spring and summer flooded the grounds four times, washing out and requiring the replanting of the shrubbery. The boulevard in front of the memorial was damaged and clogged with debris. The Commission requested Congress contemplate appropriating funds for rebuilding the retaining wall along the boulevard fronting the memorial to provide needed protection for the property.<sup>66</sup>

After the economic collapse of October 1929 visitation to the memorial declined dramatically and -- in spite of the official dedication ceremonies which took place in 1931 -- available funds were quite limited. Only \$12.50 were spent on the care of the grounds that year and both Schnoor and caretaker Norton did a lot of unpaid work to ready the Memorial for the 1932 season.<sup>67</sup>

### 1931-1936: Depression Years

A public dedication ceremony (Fig. 17) for the completed Memorial was held July 31, 1931. By the fall of 1932 Huntington was urging Schnoor to remove the barberry hedges from the upper plaza and from along the whole front of the grounds because of maintenance problems. He also wanted some of the Austrian pine trees removed from each side of the lower plaza, as they were interfering with the flood lights illuminating the shaft of the column and detracting from the aesthetic impact the illumination intended. Schnoor proposed to wait until the spring to remove the trees and the shrubs because he hoped to sell them and raise some needed cash

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<sup>66</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission Annual Report, Dec 1928*, PEVI; *Perry's Victory Commission Annual Meeting Report, Aug 20, 1929*, PEVI. Huntington's Report, Aug 21, 1930, PEVI.

<sup>67</sup> *Perry's Memorial Commission Annual Report, 1931*, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Apr 15, 1932, PEVI.

for the operation of the memorial. Huntington agreed to leave the pines for another year, but insisted that they be taken out before the following season.<sup>68</sup>

The 1932 annual report noted the deterioration of the grounds and added that extra care and expense would be required to bring the site back to its former state of perfection as a public park. Funds were so limited that in July 1932 Schnoor suspended the employment of the superintendent of grounds. By December the barberry hedge along the front road was removed and burned even though Mrs. Johannsen, the late custodian's widow, objected because it made the grounds too public and insured no privacy. But both Huntington, president of the Commission, and Schnoor decided that the removal of the hedge was an aesthetic improvement.<sup>69</sup>

In the spring of 1933, Huntington again asked Schnoor to remove the barberry hedge around the plaza in an attempt to give the grounds a presentable appearance for the spring season. It is unclear whether the barberry hedges on the plaza were removed at this time or at a later date. Huntington again ordered the custodian to remove the pines around the lower plaza as soon as the weather would permit, but Schnoor decided to transplant them instead: three were to go around an unsightly fence and transformer, three near the utility building (the current park headquarters), and five to the grounds of the now defunct Hotel Victory on the southwest side of South Bass Island.<sup>70</sup>

Spring storms in 1933 again caused considerable damage to the site. Sleet and strong winds ruined trees and flooded the grounds. Maintenance became quite tedious, particularly since limited resources precluded the hiring of additional personnel. Funds allocated for the care of

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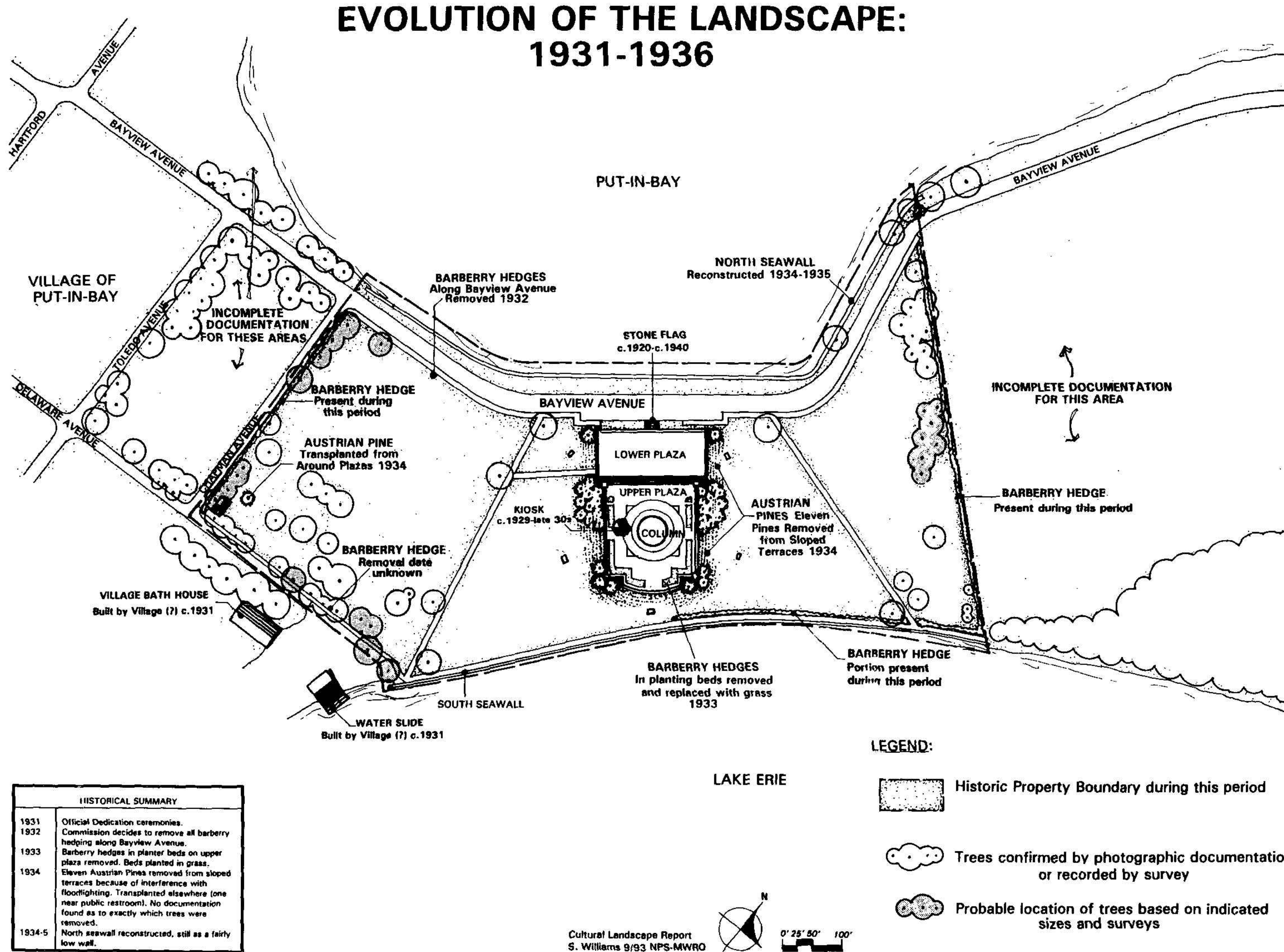
<sup>68</sup> Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 2, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 4, 1932, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 14, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 18, 1932, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 19, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 23, 1932, PEVI.

<sup>69</sup> *Perry's Victory Memorial Commission Annual Report, 1932*, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Dec 14, 1932, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, Dec 20, 1933, PEVI.

<sup>70</sup> Schnoor to Huntington, April 4, 1933, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, April 7, 1933, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, April 12, 1934, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, April 17, 1934, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, April 27, 1934, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, May 7, 1934, PEVI. Removal of the rest of the Austrian pines was also considered in 1951. At that time Superintendent Prentice informed the Regional Director that in his opinion, and that of the Regional Office inspector, the trees flanking the upper terrace were too tall and for aesthetic reasons should be replaced with plantings of considerable less height, memo from Joseph Prentice to Regional Director, National Park Service, August 8, 1951, PEVI.



Fig. 18 Evolution of the Landscape: 1931-1936 [by author].



the Memorial were clearly insufficient as both Huntington and Schnoor well realized. Less than 6 percent of the total budget (\$148.35) was spent for the upkeep of the grounds in 1934 and even less during the following year (\$76.65).<sup>71</sup>

**1936-Today: National Park Service  
Administration**

### **Transfer to the National Park Service**

Huntington's efforts to transfer control to the Department of the Interior finally succeeded as Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial was officially designated a National Monument on July 6, 1936. Aerial photographs of the monument document the condition of the site at the time of the transfer (Fig. 20).

Early in 1937 George N. Wallace, a landscape architect with the National Park Service, visited the site and completed a survey of the Memorial grounds and of all the boat routes to the connecting cities, and produced a new design for the landscape. His design has survived but neither Schnoor nor Huntington ever received the copies that Wallace had promised (Fig. 19).<sup>72</sup> It does not appear that there was ever a serious attempt to implement this plan.

During the next two years inclement weather kept Schnoor busy. He hoped for a visit from National Park Service officials to see the grounds at their worst. In 1942 high waters again washed away nearby docks and accumulated rubbish on the shore forcing Schnoor to lament the need for improvements and repairs to the Memorial grounds.<sup>73</sup>

During that year, 1942, a flagpole was erected at the front (north side) of the lower plaza. Both Huntington and Schnoor were pleased and the former noted that, "it appeared to great advantage when approaching the Memorial by water...and by the road."<sup>74</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> *Annual Report of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, 1933* and *Annual Report of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, 1934*, PEVI.

<sup>72</sup> Schnoor to Huntington, April 26, 1937, PEVI.

<sup>73</sup> Schnoor to Huntington, April 1942, PEVI.

<sup>74</sup> Huntington to Schnoor, June 1942, PEVI. A second flagpole (to display the Canadian flag) was erected by 1975, reflecting a broadening of the commemorative mission of the site.



Fig. 19 The "Development Plan" proposed by George Wallace of the National Park Service, 1938 [copied from the original by NPS/DSC staff].

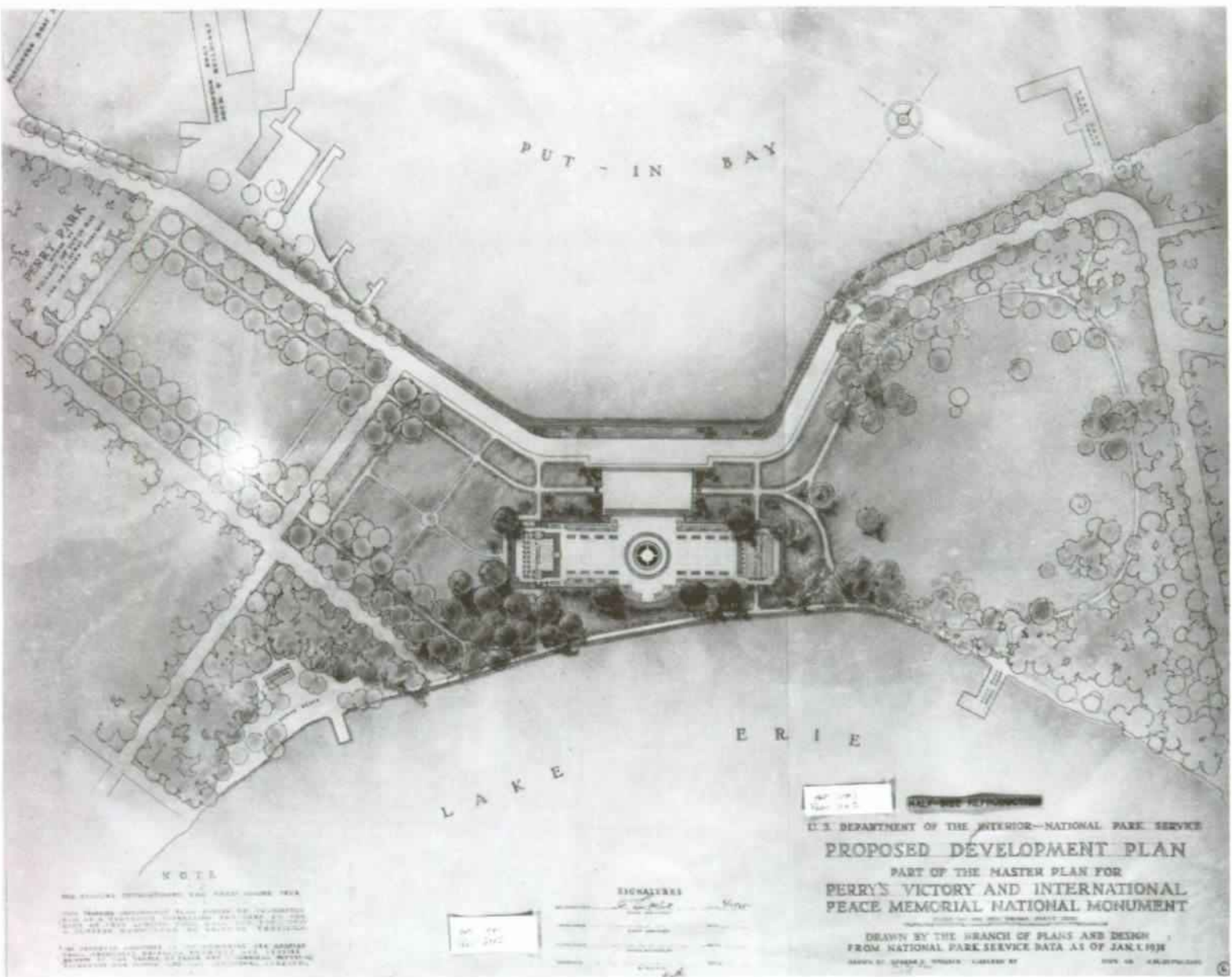
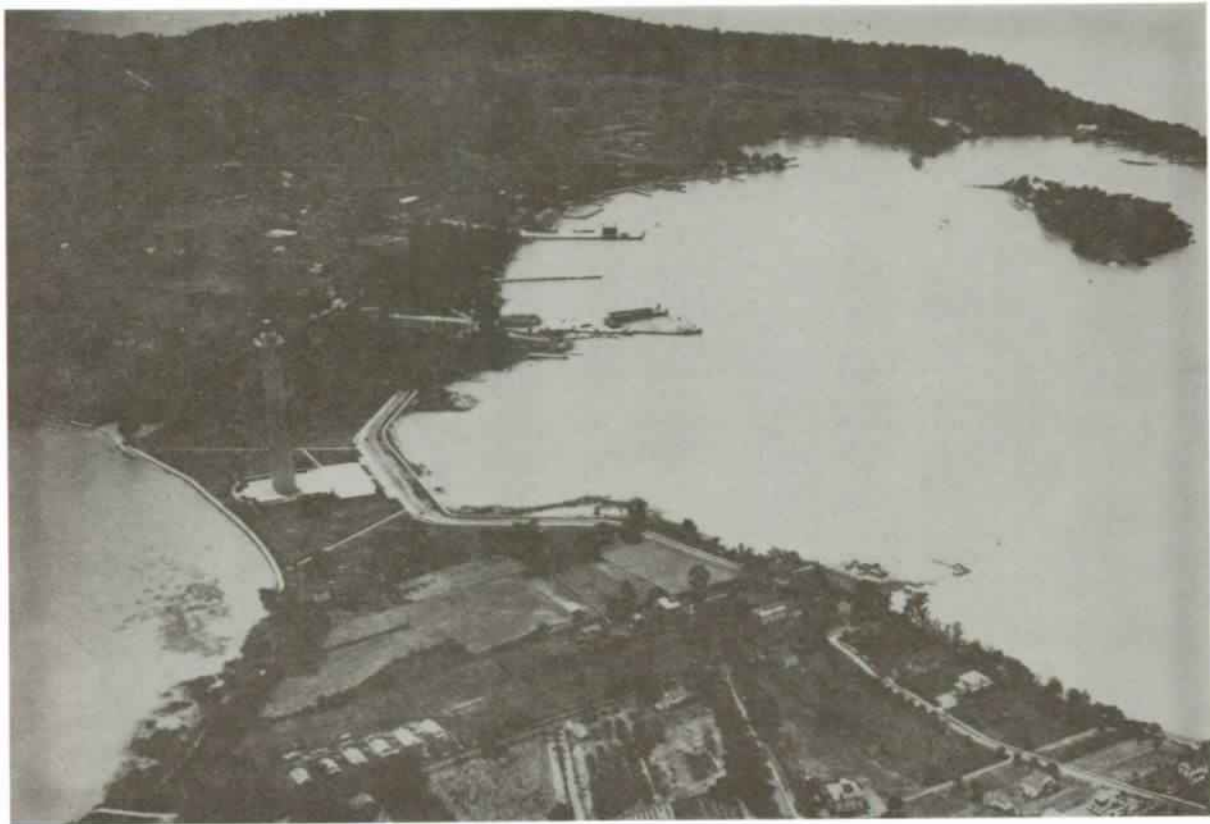


Fig. 20 Aerial view of the Memorial when it was transferred to the National Park Service, c.1936.



In the late thirties Huntington also began to lobby for the acquisition of additional land adjacent to the monument. Although a bill was introduced in Congress in 1939 authorizing an appropriation of \$200,000 for such a purchase, it was 1960 before donations from private citizens appended 6.6 acres to the memorial. On October 26, 1972 Congress finally authorized the purchase of up to four additional acres, setting aside \$370,000 for this purpose.<sup>75</sup> National Park Service staff requested additional land to accommodate future development, but the acreage was subsequently reduced by Congress to a maximum of four acres.

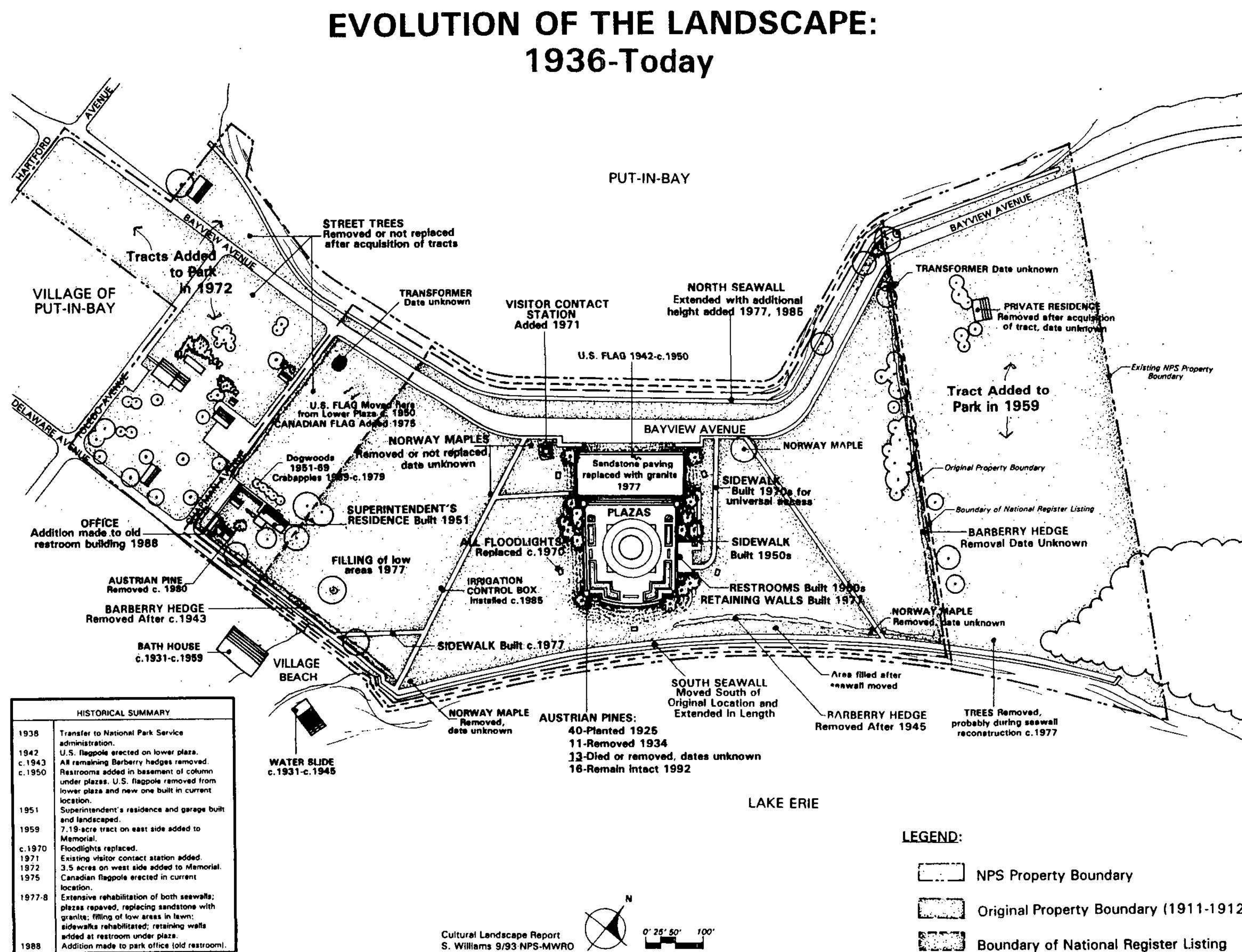
### Recent Development Plans

Soon after the National Park Service assumed management of the Memorial, design concept plans were prepared for a formal approach mall and facility development between the village and the monument. Similar concepts resurfaced in plans developed in the 1970s. Although many

<sup>75</sup> Public speech delivered by Huntington in January 1939, PEVI. In 1972, 3.5 acres were purchased and a 0.44-acre easement was donated to the park to increase the total acreage to 25.38 acres.



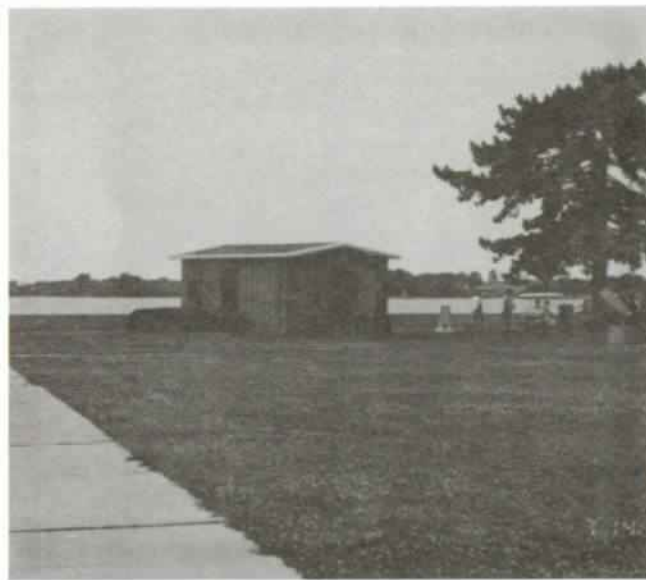
Fig. 21 Evolution of the Landscape: 1936-Today [by author].



of these plans received approval from the appropriate National Park Service administration, none were ever executed.<sup>76</sup>

The plans generally called for an approach mall consisting of straight rows of trees lining both sides of the proposed mall, one side of State Route 357 west of the monument, and a sizable segment of the walking path along the lake shore. The eastern side of the Memorial grounds was to remain park-like and free of development. The Austrian pines and the existing angular walks were to be removed and replaced with low evergreen plantings and curvilinear walks respectively.<sup>77</sup> These plans generally did not reflect lessons learned by park management on the extreme environmental conditions of the site and the expenses associated with maintenance. Once again, these plans were not executed.

Fig. 22 The current visitor contact station [by author].



A few structures were added during this period. A frame residence and garage for use by the superintendent of the park were built in 1951 near the intersection of Chapman and Delaware Avenues, at the southwest corner of the original 14.25-acre property. A limited amount of landscaping was planted around the residence: a hedge surrounded a small garden area, and ornamental trees were planted to the north of the house. The hedge remains, but the original dogwood trees were soon replaced by crabapple trees which did not survive the flooding of the 1970s. In 1971 a small (16-foot by 24-foot) prefabricated metal building was erected near the west corner of the lower plaza to serve as a temporary visitor contact station (Fig. 22). This

structure still stands today and is the only public contact facility on the site. Restrooms were added to the basement of the column, with entrances on the west side. A sidewalk connecting

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<sup>76</sup> Higgins, Griffing, and O'Neil, November 1951 NPS design, approved by the Director of the National Park Service (NPS) on February 1952, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center (DSC); Hanson and Wittpen, April 1957 design approved by NPS Chief of Construction and Design (COD), TIC, DSC; Ley H. J. H. and Hanson, December 1963 NPS design approved by COD, TIC, DSC; Lewis, Dall, and De Silets, April 1964 NPS design approved by COD, TIC, DSC.

<sup>77</sup> Beer, Joe, August 1978, *NPS Terrace Planting Plan*, National Park Service (NPS) Midwest Regional Office, Omaha, Nebraska; Behnke, William A., January/February 1979, *Preliminary Site Development and Alternative Site Development Plans*, Technical Information Center (TIC), NPS; Behnke, William A., 1980, *Site Development and Alternative Site Development Plans*, TIC, Denver Service Center, NPS.



these restrooms with the lower plaza was built in the 1950s, and an additional sidewalk, providing access to the restrooms by persons with a handicapping condition, was added in the 1970s.

Two major rehabilitation projects, in 1977-1978 and 1984-1985, saw repairs made to the column, additions and alterations to other structures. The southern seawall was completely rebuilt to eliminate erosion of the sloped terrace on the south side of the upper plaza caused by floods. The new seawall is longer at each end and is located further south into Lake Erie than the older seawall. This added more land between the upper plaza and the seawall, particularly at the eastern end of the new seawall. Additional rehabilitation work included repointing the mortar on the column, replacing the sandstone plaza paving with granite paving, installation of an irrigation system, filling to correct poor drainage on the grounds, and adding retaining walls next to the restrooms to hold the sloped terraces.

The park headquarters building was expanded with a modest addition in 1988. A *Development Concept Plan Revision* addressing development of staff (permanent and seasonal) housing was approved in August 1992. Construction of these facilities is currently underway in the area to the east of the plazas located on National Park Service land, outside of the original 14.25-acre property.

### Environmental and Economic Factors

Environmental factors have played an important role in the history of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The original promoters failed to perceive the difficulties its location would produce in the future. The isthmus was marshy, but served as a passageway for travel between the two sections of the island. South Bass was surveyed for the first time in 1858-1862 and the extent of the marsh on the tombolo is clearly shown on the survey plat (Fig. 23).<sup>78</sup> Filling the swamp and draining the grounds was a long and expensive task, but it did not provide a permanent solution to the problem as periodic increases in the water level of Lake Erie continue to produce extensive flooding of the grounds (Fig. 24). Even during periods of low water, frequent inundations caused by violent winter and spring storms seriously damage the site.<sup>79</sup> Trees roots are often exposed by erosion as a result of the wind-driven wave action across the site. In addition, trees and other debris from Lake Erie are tossed onto the grounds creating a heavy and repetitive job of clean-up. Such conditions have discouraged plantings and limited the options for landscaping the Memorial.

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<sup>78</sup> Alfred Mongin, "Appendix III," *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (N.P.: National Park Service, 1961).

<sup>79</sup> Weather data from the park and verbal reports from maintenance crews indicate that even after the walls were rebuilt in the 1980s extensive flooding continue to be the norm when Lake Erie water levels rise.

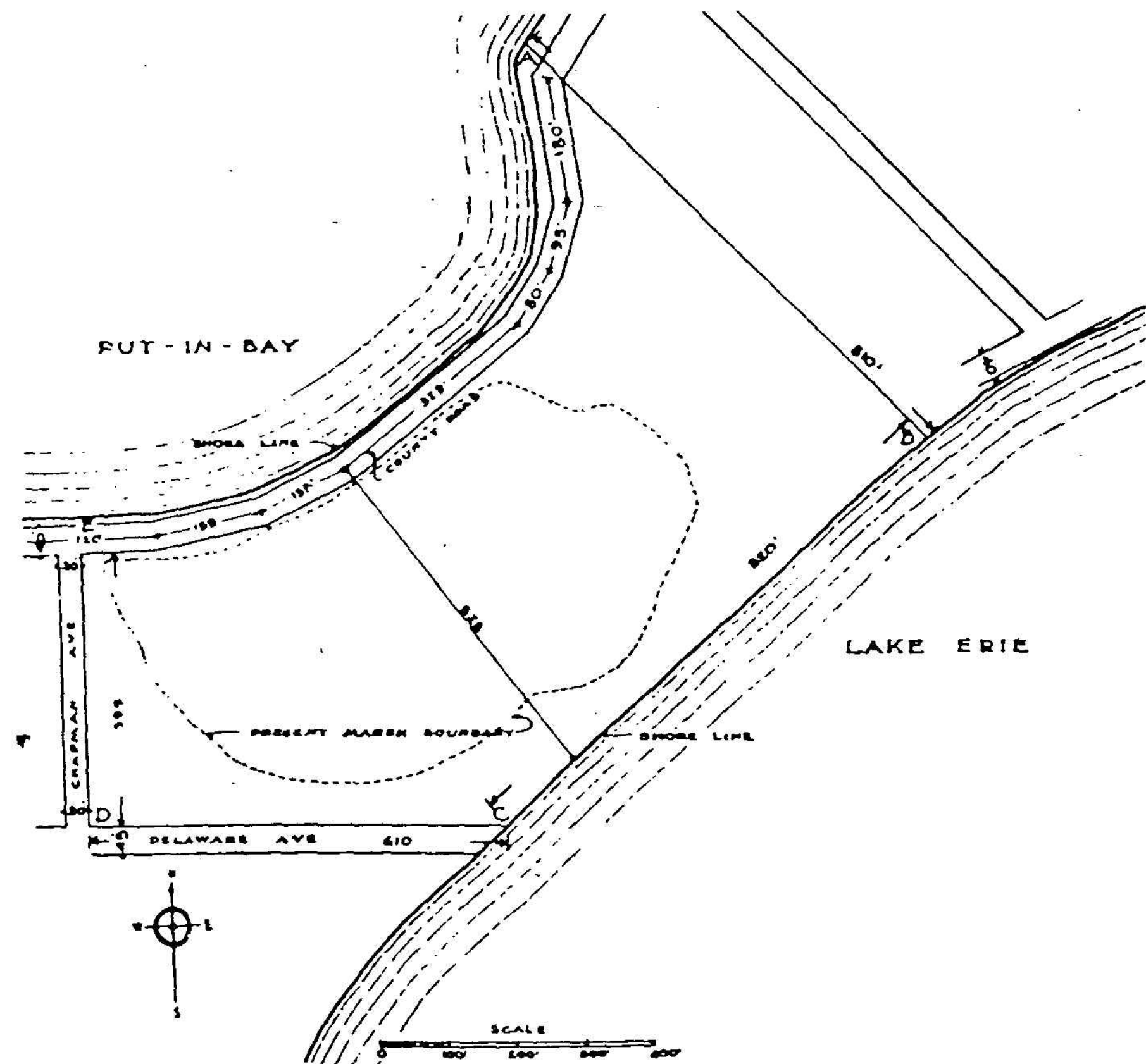


Other climatic factors affect the landscape at Perry's Victory. The spring is exceedingly wet, but it is followed by extremely dry and hot summer months (particularly July and August). Very strong winds are common which regularly buffet the exposed isthmus. These extreme weather conditions tend to be the norm during a large portion of the year. Many trees and plants cannot survive the dramatic changes in temperature and moisture and the constant wind, which are common for South Bass Island. Plantings and seeding require

careful planning since they are possible only at certain times of the year. For example, during the fall of 1930 the superintendent of grounds made a special trip to replant the barberry hedges that had been destroyed by a previous storm, but was unable to do it because of extremely dry conditions.<sup>80</sup>

Subsequent planners have also failed to take environmental factors into consideration. In 1950, then Superintendent Joseph Prentice informed the Regional Director of the National Park Service that although he thought the proposed drawings and contract specifications for improvements of the site were well-drawn, he did not believe that the dates proposed for the grading and planting were appropriate and suggested that the grading and filling be carried out during the summer months with seeding and planting to be done in early September. He realized that this would require the extension of the contract to include a spring maintenance period, but felt that this might turn out to be less costly in the long run. Prentice noted the impact of local conditions

Fig. 23 Original survey map indicating the extent of "Chapman's Marsh."



<sup>80</sup> Schnoor to Huntington, August 1931, PEVI. Schnoor reminded Huntington that Horace Norton, the superintendent of grounds, had submitted a bill for planting the barberry hedge including the trip he had made the previous fall for that purpose when he found it "too dry to do so."



on the proposed schedule. He thought that late spring grass seeding might be caught at an unfavorable growth stage by a drought in July and August and feared that the soggy spring ground would not be able to support the heavy equipment necessary for removal of the topsoil and transportation of fill material.<sup>81</sup> The same project required the planting of five dogwoods north of the superintendent's residence, but they did not survive even a year. The contractor noted that they could not be replaced until the hot weather was over, although he denied a suggestion from Prentice that the climate at the site was too severe for dogwoods. The trees were replanted but, again, did not last. In 1969 crabapples were planted to replace the dogwoods, but they did not survive the extensive flooding of the 1970s.<sup>82</sup>

A decade later, National Park Service plans were still ignoring environmental factors. A 1978 proposal for the beds on the upper plaza provided for twenty varieties of plants (perennials, annuals, shrubs and yuccas). While it included specimens that would bloom successively from April to October, it would be quite costly to implement and maintain. It is improbable that the perennials and the yucca would survive many years.<sup>83</sup>

Economic factors have adversely affected the landscape of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. Lack of funds prevented the execution of the original Freedlander competition design (1912) and limited the scope of his second plan which was finally implemented during the 1924-1926 construction period. The high cost of maintaining even a simple planting, like a barberry hedge around the Memorial, contributed to its removal during the 1930s. As limited financial resources come to be the norm for the 1990s, it is important to adopt landscape designs that make sense in view of maintenance requirements and the periodic severe weather conditions floods on South Bass Island. Furthermore, previous studies of the park concur that the present scheme of landscaping, largely open grass with tree stands to each side, lends itself ideally to the function of the park, which is to focus attention on the monument.

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<sup>81</sup> Prentice to Regional Director, November 25, 1950, PEVI.

<sup>82</sup> Both National Park Service (NPS) plans can be located at the Technical Information Center at NPS/Denver Service Center and at PEVI.

<sup>83</sup> An original of this proposed plan is archived at the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service in Omaha, Nebraska.

**Fig. 24** Photographs from the 1970s illustrate conditions during a typical spring storm. Waves breaking over the north seawall completely covered State Road 357 and drove lake water across the Memorial grounds [by park staff].





## **History Summary Chronology**

### **1852-1910: Movement to Establish a Memorial**

- 1852: Promoters propose Gibraltar Island as site for a memorial.
- 1858: Perry Monument Association established by concerned citizens.
- 1864: Financier Jay Cooke buys Gibraltar Island and erects a small monument.
- 1890-1903: Twelve bills to create a memorial introduced in Congress, but all fail.
- 1908: Ohio Perry's Victory Centennial Commission formed; other states follow suit.
- 1909: Architect John Eisenmann makes surveys of site.
- 1910: Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners formed and general concept for memorial adopted. Site approved.

### **1911-1912: Design Competition**

- 1911: Congress makes first appropriations and President William Howard Taft appoints three federal commissioners to Board. Board retains Architect Frank M. Day as advisor. Competition program developed and announced.
- 1911-1912: State of Ohio purchases 14.25-acres of land.
- 1912: Freedlander's design selected by National Commission on the Fine Arts. Freedlander completes rough working drawings.

### **1912-1915: Site Clearing/Construction of the Column**

- 1912: Site clearing completed, June-July. Ground breaking and construction of column footing begins.
- 1913: Land ceded from State of Ohio to United States. July 4th cornerstone-laying ceremonies. Centennial of Battle of 1813 celebration in September with William Howard Taft as the featured speaker. Freedlander's speech elucidates his design concepts.
- 1914: Board sets aside \$122,000 for plazas and landscaping. Contract awarded to Stewart Engineering for construction of urns, pedestals, paving of plazas, and landscaping of grounds.
- 1915: Column completed and opened to public on June 13th. Funding shortfall causes suspension of the Stewart contract and prevents completion of the construction contract (paving of the upper plaza and the landscaping).
- 1916: Bayview Avenue paved with a macadam surface. Sloped terrace built around lower plaza.

### **1916-1924: Construction of Seawalls/Filling of the Grounds**

- 1916: Construction of the north seawall.
- 1918: Filling of the grounds.
- 1919: United States Congress accepts title to Memorial from the State of Ohio.  
Perry's Victory Memorial Commission created by Congress to replace Interstate Board.
- 1920: Freedlander submits new landscaping plan.
- 1921: Landscape designer Charles Greening submits a landscaping plan, which was approved by the Commission; but, apparently because of legal obligations to Freedlander, his plan never is implemented. LaBeau Wrecking Companies begins filling of the grounds.

### **1924-1926: Major Landscape Work Completed**

- 1924: Freedlander produces two new sets of specifications for the landscaping.  
LaBeau Wrecking completes the filling of the grounds. Contract for paving of the plazas is awarded to Ambursen Construction Company. Reconstruction of southern wall. Landscape contract awarded to Wadley and Smythe and landscape work begins: lawn seeded, 1,300 barberry, 36 shrubs, 40 Austrian pines, and 10 maples planted.
- 1925: Sidewalks completed. Bayview Avenue paved with asphalt.
- 1926: Second federal appropriation. Commission reports landscaping completed.

### **1927-1931: Interim Modifications of the Designed Landscape**

- 1928: Floodlights installed.
- 1929: Utility building [current park headquarters] built. Flooding washes out part of hedge. Stock market crashes: visitation and funding drop dramatically.
- 1930: Drought conditions cancel plans to replant washed out portion of hedge.

### **1931-1936: Depression Years**

- 1931: Official dedication ceremonies.
- 1932: Removal of the barberry hedge from along Bayview Avenue (State Highway 357).
- 1933: Barberry hedges were probably removed from the upper plaza at this time. Bad spring storms damage trees on the grounds.
- 1934: Eleven Austrian pines removed from terraces to accommodate floodlighting.  
North seawall reconstructed (1934-1935).

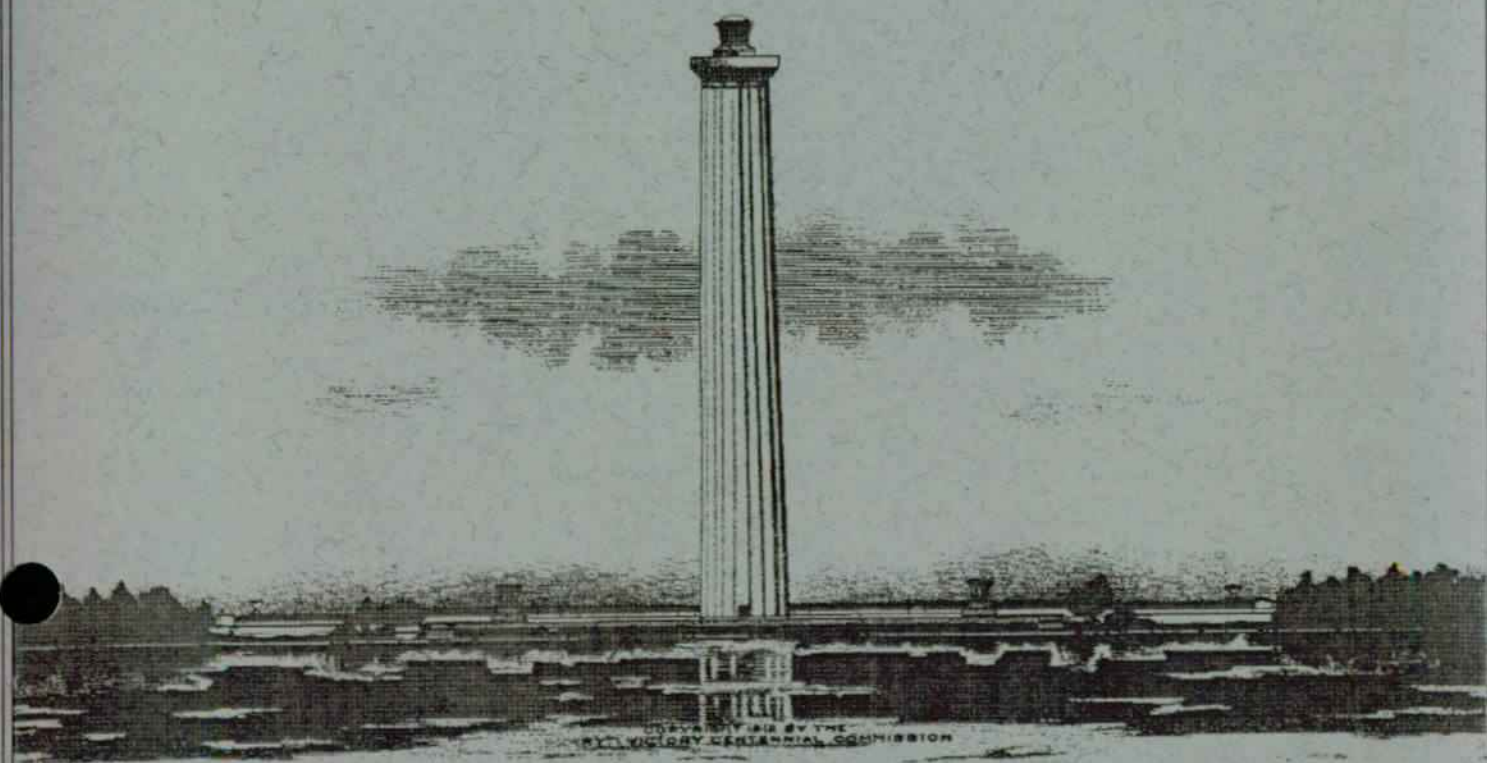


### 1936-Today: National Park Service Administration

- 1936: Designated a National Monument and administration transferred to Department of the Interior/National Park Service (NPS).
- 1938: NPS/Wallace plan (not implemented).
- 1942: Flagpole built on lower plaza. Bad flooding.
- c.1943: All remaining barberry hedges removed sometime after 1943.
- c.1950: Former flagpole removed and new pole built in current location near the intersection of Bayview Avenue and Chapman Avenue.
- 1951: Superintendent's residence and garage built.
- 1959: 7.19 acres donated to the Memorial, increasing the total acreage to 21.44 acres.
- 1963: Column repointed.
- 1971: Current visitor contact station added near plazas.
- 1972: Acreage increases by 3.5 acres (purchased) and 0.44 acre (easement donated), to the current total of 25.38 acres under federal control. Name changed by deleting "National Monument" (P.L. 92-568).
- 1977-1978: Rehabilitation of seawalls. Filling of grounds. Irrigation system installed.
- 1984-1985: Rehabilitation of monument and plazas.
- 1988: Addition made to expand the park headquarters building.
- 1992: Development Concept Plan approved for new maintenance area and employee housing.

# Part III

## Inventory of Existing Conditions





## Inventory and Documentation of Existing Conditions

The authors systematically inventoried the existing (July 1992) landscape features of the original 14.25 acre site: vegetation, structures, structural elements, circulation, views and small-scale features, etc. They recorded both contributing and non-contributing features which are keyed to the accompanying "Existing Conditions Analysis Map" (next page and insert on back cover). Black and white photographs were taken to document each contributing feature. The features discussed in this section and illustrated by the "Existing Conditions Analysis Map" are also included as Appendix A of this document (beginning on page 138). The following text summarizes features and overall components by general category. The features discussed in this section are keyed to the accompanying plan by numbers within brackets, "[ ]."

### Topography and Drainage

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is sited on a low and narrow isthmus (or tombolo) that was originally swampy land. In fact, most of the Memorial site is located within the 100- and 500-year floodplain level. Since the site was selected in 1911, an almost continuous process of leveling and filling the site has today created a flat lawn grade. However, the soils of the lawn areas on the east, south and west sides of the terraced Memorial plazas remain saturated for an extended period after storms. The current grade across the historic 14.25-acre portion of the property, ranges from 573 to 575 feet above mean sea level. The lowest elevation in the lawn (573.83 feet)<sup>1</sup> occurs on the west side of the property, just northeast of the superintendent's residence; the highest elevations occurs outside the historic boundary along the northeast boundary of the NPS property.

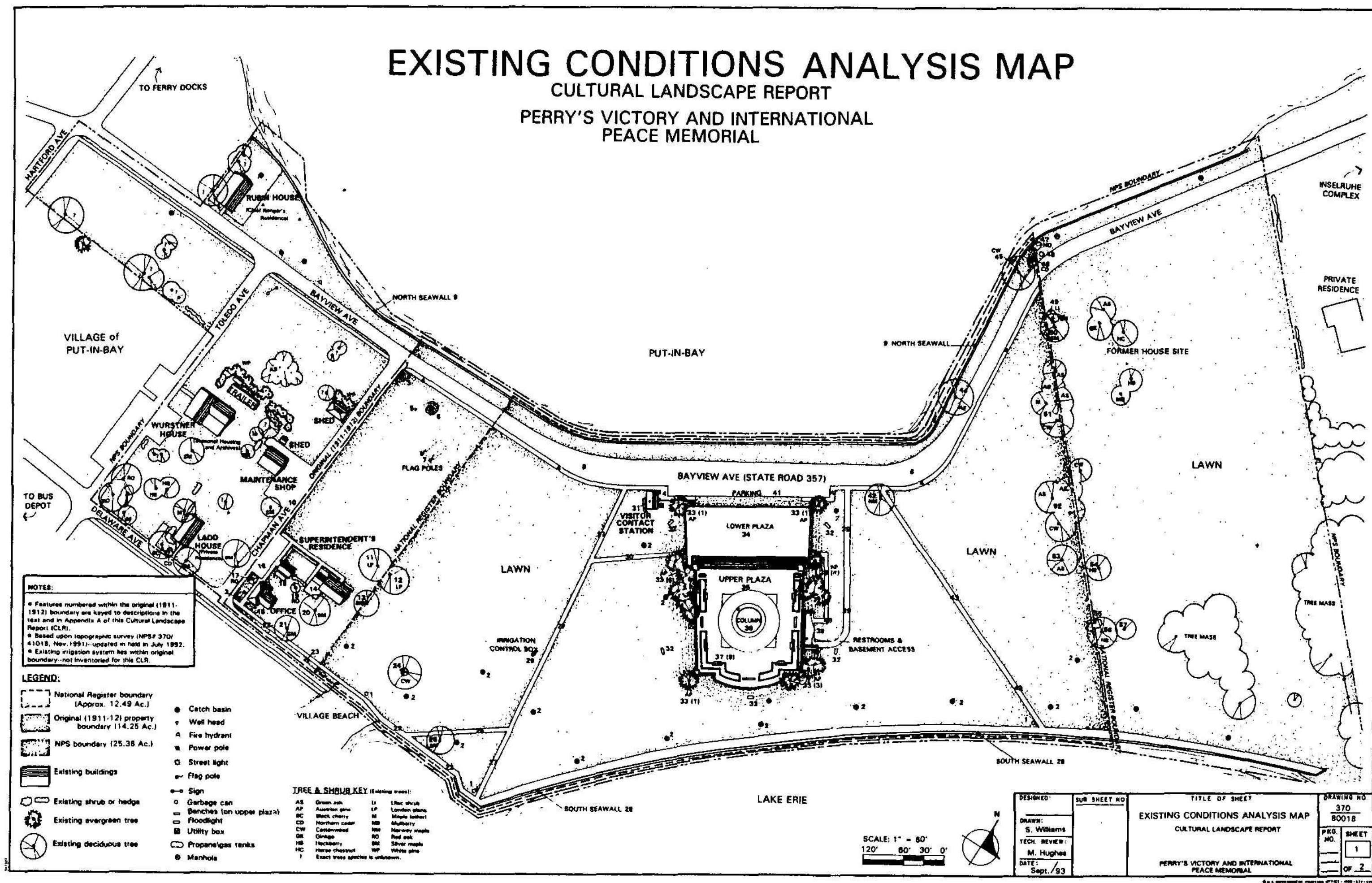
The north seawall [9] was rehabilitated in 1977 and the south seawall [28] was rehabilitated in 1978. These seawalls offer improved protection from shoreline erosion and storm flooding compared with conditions prior to the major 1977-78 rehabilitation projects. An upgraded storm sewer system facilitates the drainage of water accumulating on the site from either rain or from floodwater that breaches the seawalls. Most standing water accumulating on the site drains in approximately 24 hours. However, the soil in certain low lying areas of the site remains saturated for more than a week after heavy rains.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The lowest elevation on the site (573.46 feet above mean sea level) occurs at a drain east of the plazas.

<sup>2</sup> This assessment of saturated soil conditions is based upon observations by park staff.

Fig. 25 Existing Conditions Analysis Map [by author].





## Circulation Systems

The only roads for vehicular circulation on the historic portion of the site are: State Highway 357 (also known as Bayview Avenue) [8] along the north border of the property; Chapman Avenue [10] on the west side; and Delaware Avenue on the southwest side. Toledo Avenue is the western boundary of the more recently acquired NPS property, except for the partial block on the northwest which extends to Hartford Avenue. State Highway 357 is maintained by the Village or Township of Put-in-Bay under agreement with the State of Ohio and Chapman, Toledo, Delaware and Hartford Avenues are maintained by the Village of Put-in-Bay, Ohio. All of these roads are paved, except for Chapman Avenue which is a gravel surface.

Vehicular traffic on or through the site includes automobiles (predominately local traffic), bicycles (predominately tourists), and golf carts, minibuses, and taxis (tourist traffic). The main visitor's vehicular parking area on the Memorial grounds is the parking area [41] on the north side of the Memorial plazas. This area accommodates approximately 16 automobiles, three spaces for visitors with disabilities, and two bike racks that accommodate 52 bicycles. This is seldom enough space to accommodate the number of bicycles at the site.

Pedestrians arrive at the site from two general directions: from the southwest and from the northwest. Many visitors arrive on the Island at the ferry docks in Put-in-Bay harbor, about 100 yards northwest of the Memorial plazas. These visitors may enter the grounds from the northwest, while others may visit downtown Put-in-Bay and then arriving on the grounds either from the northwest or the southwest. Other visitors arrive on the Island at a dock on the southwest side of the Island and are delivered downtown by a new bus service. The bus service delivers visitors to within 50 yards of the southwest corner.<sup>3</sup>

Sidewalks [4, 22, 26, 27, 43] on the original 14.25-acre portion of the Memorial grounds are constructed with concrete and average between 4-8 feet in width. Most have been reconstructed within the past fifteen years. While most of the sidewalks within this historic portion of the grounds are in fair to good condition, some sections do require repair or replacement.

## Structures and Buildings

There are a variety of structural features on the Memorial grounds. Those directly associated with the historic complex include the Doric column [36], upper plaza [35] and lower plaza [34], the north seawall [9], south seawall [28], and the retaining walls [38] and restrooms under the upper plaza. These structural elements are all fairly consistent in style, quality of workmanship,

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<sup>3</sup> These visitors arrive on the Island either via Miller Ferry service which docks at the southwest end of the Island, or via ferry service which docks on the north side of the Island (but they went first to downtown Put-in-Bay). Visitors may rent golf carts, bicycles and a few cars) to tour the Island.



and materials, having been built either between 1911 and 1926 as components of the historic design or they were reconstructed in similar materials and style at a later date (except for the retaining walls near the restrooms, which were added in 1984-85).

Buildings having an administrative function include the visitor contact station [31], the superintendent's residence and garage [14], and the park office [18] within the historic portion of the Memorial grounds. Other National Park Service buildings include maintenance sheds, staff housing and other miscellaneous buildings outside of the historic 14.25-acre grounds. These buildings were constructed over a long period of time (from 1872 to 1988) and are not consistent in style, quality of workmanship, or materials. Generally, these structures are in fair condition, except for those currently functioning as staff housing, which are in poor condition. However, new facilities for staff housing and maintenance are currently (fall 1993) under construction.

### Vegetative Features

The vegetation on the original 14.25 acres generally consists of scattered mature shade trees. These trees are clustered around the east boundary [49-57] and around the superintendent's residence and park office [11-13, 17, 19-21] at the southwest corner. In addition, there are sixteen Austrian pines [33] clustered around the Memorial plazas.

The lawn is currently the most prominent vegetative feature of the site. The lawn is a mixture of lawn grasses, clover and weeds. The lawn does not appear to be highly fertilized, but it is watered regularly by an irrigation system. The lawn contains a few areas dominated by weed growth, particularly where water has been slow to drain after flooding or heavy rains.

### Small-scale Features

The small-scale features on site are of two basic time periods: those features that were installed during the period of significance (1911-1931) and those added after the property was included in the National Park System. Features such as the benches [37] and urns on the plazas and the flag poles [7] in the lawn are primarily decorative and relate to the historic design or to the commemorative nature of the site. These features are constructed of materials and with workmanship compatible with the major structural features of the site.

The existing floodlights [32] that illuminate the column, and lights around the plaza steps are functional in nature and generally date from after the transfer of the site to the National Park Service (after 1936). These lights are of modern workmanship and construction materials; however, the floodlights are located in approximately the same location and perform the same function as the original floodlights, which were installed in 1928.



The trash receptacles [1] on the site are of modern construction and are not compatible in style with the major historic structural features.

#### Patterns of Spatial Organization

The openness of the entire site (but most particularly the lawn areas to either side of the plazas) is currently the strongest visual feature of the site. These open, horizontal planes serve to emphasize the vertical ascendancy of the Doric column. The level topography and crisply defined horizontal lines of the seawalls combine to create, at even short distances, an optical illusion of the column rising directly from the water.

**Fig. 26** View of the column and plazas from Put-in-Bay [by author].



The open areas of water to the north (Put-in-Bay) and south (Lake Erie) of the Memorial also accentuate the vertical column. The structures of Put-in-Bay to the west and masses of trees and scattered structures to the east of the Memorial help to visually define the spatial quality of the historic landscape (Fig. 26).

#### Character of Adjoining Properties

The Memorial grounds very effectively separate the western and eastern ends of South Bass Island. To the west lies the Village of Put-in-Bay, which consists mostly of one- to two-story commercial and residential structures. Put-in-Bay's major businesses focus on the tourist industry. Most recent development (primarily summer homes) has occurred on the west end of the Island, west of the Village. The east end of South Bass Island consists of scattered summer (with a few year-around) houses, vineyards, open pastures, and wooded areas. East of the National Park Service property is the historic Inselruhe complex, a nineteenth-century residence and outbuildings. A private residence, Inselruhe is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is covered by a preservation easement between the owners and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The entire Island is visible from the observation deck at the top of the Memorial column. The view from the deck to the northwest where the 1813 naval battle occurred is the most important for National Park Service interpretative purposes. This view consists of the open water of Lake Erie and scattered islands.

### Condition Assessment

A rough assessment of the condition of the existing significant features on the historic 14.25-acre Memorial grounds is presented as part of Appendix A. All significant features were evaluated by the draft criteria under development for the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) project.<sup>4</sup> These condition ratings are:

GOOD	The features of the landscape need no intervention; only minor or routine maintenance is needed.
FAIR	Some deterioration, decline, or damage is noticeable; the feature may require immediate intervention; if intervention is deferred, the feature will require extensive attention in 3-5 years.
POOR	Deterioration, decline, or damage is serious; the feature is seriously deteriorated or damaged, or presents a hazardous condition; due to the level of deterioration, damage, or danger the feature requires extensive and immediate attention.

The List of Classified Structures (LCS) inventory has not been updated for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial since 1985. Therefore, the LCS condition ratings are not used for the three structures included in the LCS database at this time (the "Memorial Column and Plazas," "Northwest Seawall," and "Southeast Seawall"). The LCS database is in the process of being updated, and the condition of structural features at the park will be updated for the LCS within the next two or three years.

It is important to note that the physical condition of a feature is different from the feature's historical integrity. Condition refers to the current state of repair or disrepair of the feature and infers the intensity of maintenance needed to keep the feature safe and usable. Integrity, on the other hand, is defined as "the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the

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<sup>4</sup> The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a computerized inventory of all cultural landscapes having historical or cultural significance in which the National Park Service has legal interest. The CLI parallels, and will cross reference, the List of Classified Structures (LCS) database. The full inventory process of field survey and data entry is being pilot-tested during 1992-1994, and will be implemented service-wide after fiscal year 1994.



survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's...historic period" of significance.<sup>5</sup> As explained in *NPS 28: Cultural Resource Management* (Draft 1993), integrity

...is judged by the degree to which the characteristics that define its historical significance are present. Because important aspects such as vegetation and use change over time, integrity also depends on how evident the general character of the historic period is and the degree to which elements impacting the integrity of the landscape are reversible.<sup>6</sup>

Overall, the landscape of the historic Memorial grounds is in good condition, with only minor or routine maintenance needed for the intact features. Maintenance recommendations for the structural features (the column, seawalls and plazas) are or will be addressed by other National Park Service documents or programs: the 1976 *Historic Structure Report: Memorial Column and Plazas, Administrative and Architectural Data*; the Inventory Condition Assessment Program (ICAP) database; and the List of Classified Structures (LCS) database.

### Summary

This inventory of existing conditions delineates the features that currently exist in the landscape and assesses their relative condition. This information guides the development of recommendations for the preservation treatments presented in the final chapter of this document.

However, these recommendations must be based on assessments of significance and integrity for these landscape features and on management needs. It is not worth investing time and money in preserving a feature if that feature is not historically significant or if the feature has lost its integrity and no longer contributes to the historic character of the landscape. Therefore, photographic and written sources were analyzed to document how the landscape developed over time for comparison with the extant features.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Linda Flint McClelland et al., *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1991), p. 4.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Chapter 7," *NPS-28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline, Release No. 4* (Draft February 1993), p. 99.

<sup>7</sup> The existing landscape, itself, provides documentation (to a limited extent) on the age of certain features. General growth rates of vegetation, materials used in construction, and dates physically noted on features all helped confirm the ages of certain features.

Written sources which were particularly helpful in this analysis include:

- 1914 contract "...For construction of the plaza and landscaping of the Grounds..." (although this contract was not fully completed due to a shortage of funds);<sup>8</sup>
- 1924 contract "...For the Alterations and Repairs to the Column...", including a drawing, "Sheet 1B, Reservation Showing Parking of Grounds;"
- Joseph Freedlander's 1913 speech, "The Perry Memorial," as recorded in the *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*;
- Webster P. Huntington's 1917 book, *The Perry's Victory Memorial: A History of Its Origin, Construction, and Completion*; and
- Alfred Mongin's 1961 *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*.

Other written sources and the photographic documentation consulted for this report are listed in the "Selected Bibliography".

Comparison of the information gained from the field inventory and from these various archival sources helped establish which existing features could be reasonably determined to date from the historic period of significance, 1911-1931. This analysis is presented as the next section, "Analysis of Character-Defining Features."

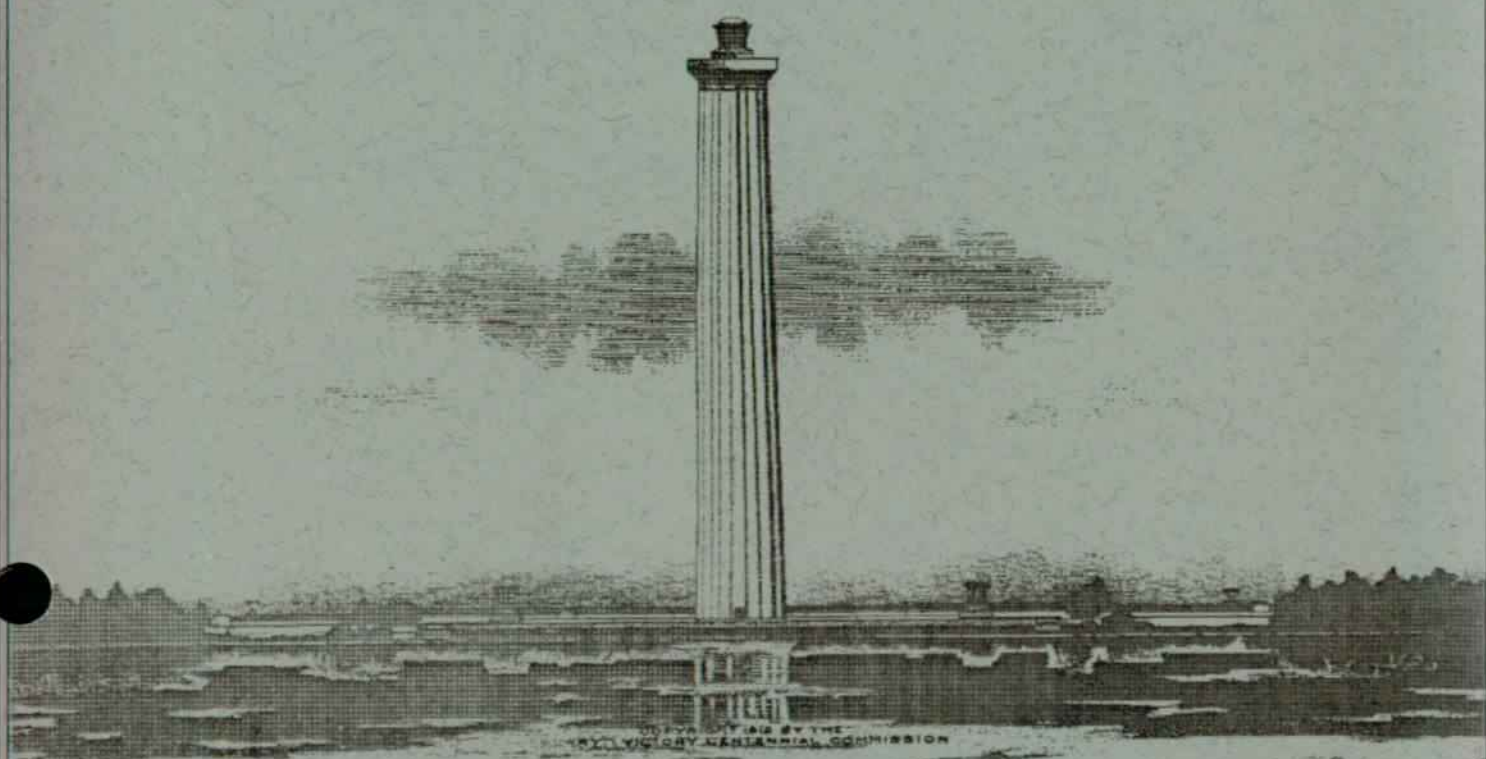
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<sup>8</sup> Alfred Mongin, "Appendix Number X," *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (1961).



# **Part IV**

## **Analysis of Character-Defining Features**



## Statement of Significance

The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial derives national significance under National Register Criterion A because of its commemoration of the critical American victory in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. The Memorial column and the grounds "...commemorates an area that became a focus of conflict during the War of 1812 and that was the scene of activity that produced far-reaching effects in military and diplomatic history." In addition, the memorial column is significant due to its architectural and engineering merit under Criterion C. According to the National Register nomination, the surrounding landscaped grounds are "considered essential to the memorial."<sup>1</sup>

Although it is not addressed in the National Register nomination, the Memorial may also be significant under Criterion C as the work of a prominent architect and as an example of the Beaux Arts style of architecture and landscape architecture.<sup>2</sup> The landscape is a good example of the Beaux Arts design style, prevalent at the turn of the century. This style was strongly influenced by the classical architecture and gardens of Europe and Italy, and was brought to the United States by architects who had studied abroad at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Joseph Freedlander, the Memorial architect, was a graduate of the Ecole des Beaux Arts. Freedlander was a prominent architect, having established his reputation, both in executed buildings and in competitions prior to his Perry's Victory work. He had designed the St. Louis Clubhouse in 1897, the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Johnson City, Tennessee in 1904, and the Portland, Oregon Auditorium in 1911.<sup>3</sup>

The Beaux Arts style was popularized by the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 and influenced the design of public buildings and landscapes during the subsequent City Beautiful town planning movement. During the apex of the Beaux Arts style (c.1900-1910), many public landscapes, including many memorials now managed by the National Park Service, were designed in this neoclassical style. This style "applied principles of proportion, scale, balanced arrangement of forms, and unity" in a classical manner and is characterized by powerful or monumental organizational features; by vistas and axial alignments; and by using neoclassical-style buildings, sculptures, and formal terraces and plazas.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas P. Busch, *National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, 1978.

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix E for Section 106 (Code of Federal Regulations) review comments of the Ohio State Preservation Officer on the 95% draft of this *Cultural Landscape Report*.

<sup>3</sup> Freedlander's success continued after his association with Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. He designed the Museum of the City of New York in 1928, The Spa in Saratoga, New York in 1929 and the Bronx County Courthouse in 1934.

<sup>4</sup> William H. Wilson, *The City Beautiful Movement*, 1989.



Another prominent feature of the Beaux Arts style was the tendency for the architect to treat the whole site, landscape and built features, as a composite composition.<sup>5</sup> This is particularly evident in Freedlander's 1912 winning competition design, as the structural terraces, road, and walks (and eventually the seawalls) reinforce the simple geometry of the column. The vegetation of the site was either used as "architectural embellishments" (adding detail at walk intersections) or helped to define the edges of the site, either formally (as with the barberry hedges) or informally (as with the tree masses at the east and west boundaries).

Freedlander's revised 1924 plan for the landscaping of the grounds (Fig. 27) reflected constraints of inadequate congressional appropriations and subsequent budgetary constraints and is a simple, less embellished design. However, it still contains formal, architectonic features and functions to meet Freedlander's primary goal of setting the monument in a treeless horizontal plane so that the central column is accentuated. It also met the design competition criterion that the Memorial present the illusion of rising directly from the water.<sup>6</sup>

The present-day landscape of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial retains the general character and feeling that evolved during the historic period, 1911-1931. Some features have been modified or are no longer extant; but the major components and character-defining features of this historic designed landscape retain a high degree of integrity. However, the significant vegetative features of the landscape retain only a moderate degree of integrity. The landscape, as a whole, does reflect the evolution of the landscape from 1911, when the original boundaries were established and site clearing began, through 1931, when the Memorial was dedicated and further development essentially ceased due to the financial constraints imposed by the Depression.

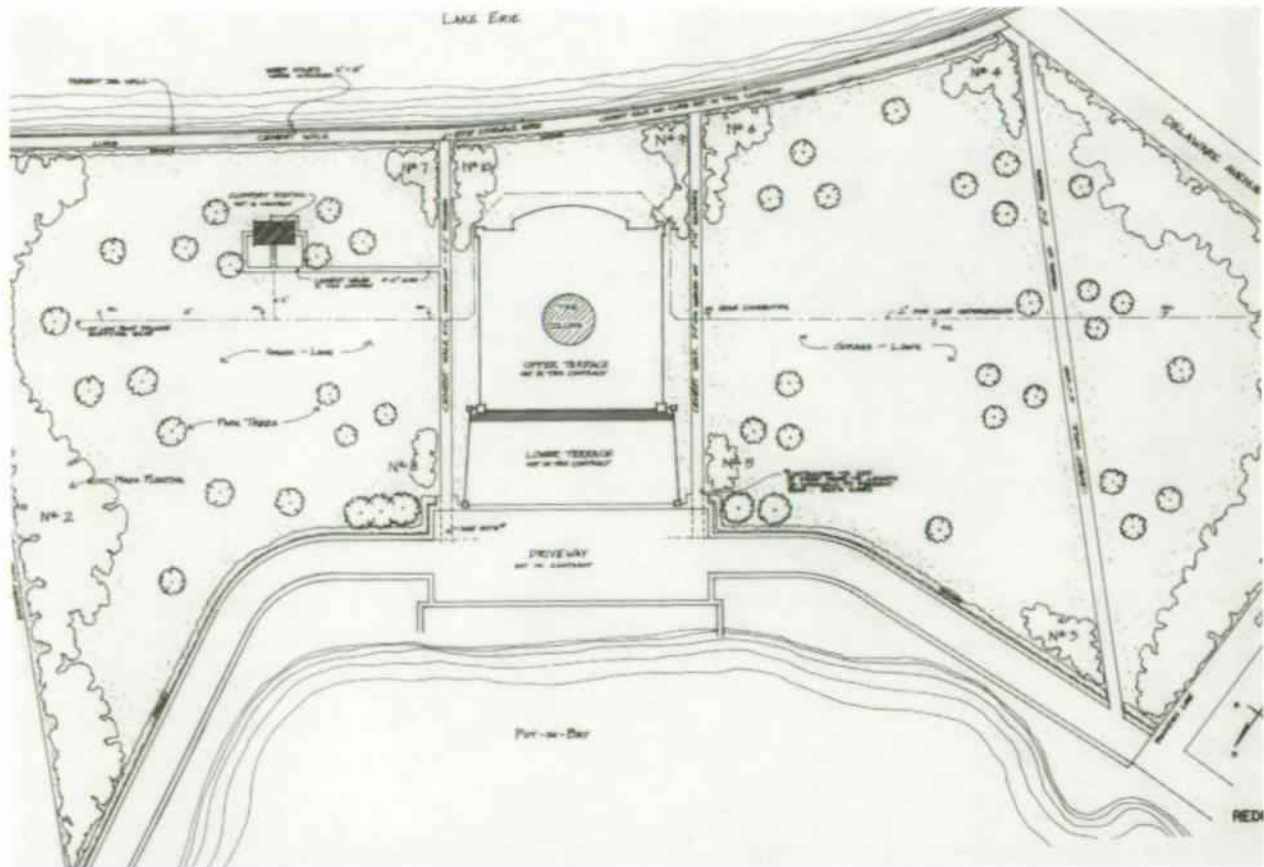
The landscape Freedlander designed to compliment the column was basically installed during the 1924-1926 construction period. With some minor alterations and additions, the landscape reached its apex by 1931. After 1931, the Memorial landscape was adversely impacted by reduced funding levels. Features began to deteriorate, often due to the climatic conditions experienced at the site, and were not replaced due to financial constraints. However, the purpose of the Memorial -- to commemorate Perry's 1813 victory over the British and celebrate international peace between the United States, Britain and Canada -- has remained consistent over the years.

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<sup>5</sup> Several American design styles of this early 1900s period were notable in their integration of structure and landscape. These design styles included not only the Beaux Arts style (c.1900-1910), but also the Country Place era (c.1890-1940), and, to a more limited extent, the Prairie Style (c.1900-1950). See bibliography listings for Robert E. Grese (1992), Norman T. Newton (1971), and William H. Wilson (1989).

<sup>6</sup> Joseph H. Freedlander, "The Perry Memorial" in *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*, 1913.

Fig. 27 Detail of Freedlander's second design for the Memorial landscape, 1924 [copied from original by NPS/DSC staff].



### Significance and Integrity of the Features

The following is a two-fold analysis of the existing landscape features of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The features are evaluated for both their significance and for their integrity.

For an assessment of significance, the individual features are discussed in relationship to the period of significance for the property: 1911-1931. These features are classified as either:

- 1) **Contributing (C)** -- the feature was present during the period of significance (1911-1931) and continues to contribute to the character of the historic designed landscape;
- 2) **Missing (M)** -- the feature was present during the period of significance, but is no longer extant today;



- 3) **Acquired Significance (AS)** -- the feature was not part of the landscape during the period of significance, but it has acquired significance over time;
- 4) **Noncontributing (NC)** -- the feature was not present during the period of significance and does not contribute to the character of the historic designed landscape;
- 5) **Functionally Important (F)** -- the feature has administrative or operational importance and does not seriously diminish the historic character; or
- 6) **Intrusive (I)** -- the feature was not present during the period of significance but, today, seriously diminishes the character of the historic landscape.

The integrity of a feature is a "composite effect of seven qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association". All seven qualities do not need to be present for eligibility as long as the overall sense of time and place is evident.<sup>7</sup> The features' integrity are loosely rated as high, moderate, or low (see Appendix B).

This analysis of the significance and integrity of the character-defining features is organized by grouping the features under the following topics: topography and drainage, circulation systems, structures and buildings, vegetative features, small-scale features, patterns of spatial organization, and the character of adjoining properties. The table on the next page (Fig. 28) summarizes the significance of the features of the historic landscape by the categories described below. The evaluation of integrity supporting this assessment is included as Appendix B.

Although the features are presented and discussed individually, in the final analysis, it is the collective effect that determined that the historic character of the landscape is significant and is basically intact.

### Character-Defining Features

The most significant features of the historic 14.25-acre landscape for the period of significance, 1911-1931, include:

- Complementary horizontal and vertical lines. The horizontal planes are defined by the open lawns, the two plazas, the steps to the upper plaza, the barberry hedges and the seawalls. The vertical focus of the site is the column. The small-

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<sup>7</sup> J. Timothy Keller and Genevieve Keller, *National Register Bulletin 30: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*, p.7. See also Linda Flint McClelland et. al, *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*, pp. 21-24.

Fig. 28 An assessment of significance.

Landscape Features	Significance
<b>Topography &amp; Drainage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sloped terraces around upper &amp; lower plazas</li> <li>■ Level topography of the site</li> <li>■ Retaining wall for slope at restroom under plaza</li> </ul>	C C NC/F
<b>Circulation Systems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bayview Avenue</li> <li>■ Chapman Ave</li> <li>■ Parking area on north side of lower plaza</li> <li>■ Sidewalks 22, 26, 39, 40</li> <li>■ Sidewalks 4, 27, 28, 30, 43</li> </ul>	C C C NC/F C
<b>Structures &amp; Buildings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Upper and lower plazas</li> <li>■ Steps between plazas</li> <li>■ North &amp; South seawalls</li> <li>■ Visitor contact station</li> <li>■ Superintendent's residence and garage</li> <li>■ Park office</li> <li>■ Column</li> </ul>	C C C NC/F/I NC/F C C
<b>Vegetative Features</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ London plane trees (11, 12)</li> <li>■ Silver maple (13, 20, 21) and Cottonwoods (24, 45)</li> <li>■ Norway maples (42)</li> <li>■ Austrian pines</li> <li>■ American elm (45) and Northern cedar (46)</li> <li>■ Tree masses at east boundary</li> <li>■ Barberry hedges on upper plaza</li> <li>■ Barberry hedges around perimeter</li> </ul>	C C C/M C/~M C/AS C/~M C/M C/M
<b>Small-scale Features</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Trash cans and NPS signs</li> <li>■ Utilities and propane tanks</li> <li>■ Flag poles</li> <li>■ Floodlights</li> <li>■ Benches and urns on upper plaza</li> </ul>	NC/F NC/F NC/F C C
<b>Patterns of Spatial Organization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Open lawn areas to each side of plazas</li> <li>■ Enclosing masses of trees at west and east boundaries</li> <li>■ View to battle site from column</li> <li>■ View of column from north</li> <li>■ Formality of the layout and features</li> <li>■ Pattern of horizontal and vertical lines</li> </ul>	C C/M C C C C
<b>Character of Adjoining Properties</b>	~NC



scale, conical Austrian pines as planted in 1925 served to soften the interface of these vertical and horizontal planes.

■ Patterns of open vs. enclosed space. The sense of openness in the center of the grounds was defined by the open lawn areas, plazas, and water surfaces to each side of the Memorial and by the enclosing vegetative masses at the western and eastern edges of the historic grounds.

■ A formal Beaux Arts style layout of the site. The simple formality of the site is maintained by the architectonic design of the plazas, seawalls, diagonal sidewalks; and was also defined by the sheared Austrian pines and the barberry hedges surrounding the original property boundaries. The symmetrical balance of the design was provided by the open lawn areas, Norway maple trees planted at the ends of the diagonal sidewalks, and by the masses of vegetation at the western and eastern edges of the historic grounds.

■ Views to and from the memorial. These include the views of the Memorial column from a distance as approaching South Bass Island, the view of the Memorial grounds from the eastern end of Gibraltar Island, and views of the column from within the historic grounds. The view outward from the viewing platform of the column toward the site of the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie is critical for interpretation.

Other less critical character-defining features include:

- the property physical boundaries and general siting;
- the roads, curbs and parking area;
- the pedestrian circulation patterns;
- the plaza plantings (barberry hedges or grass) and other scattered plantings; and
- the dramatic floodlighting of the column at night.

Areas outside the historic boundaries helped to define the historic setting for the Memorial. Characteristics of adjacent lands included:

- the residential scale, organization and massing of adjacent development (one to two story buildings, lawn areas with outbuildings, street and lawn trees, etc.);
- the uncluttered, open water surfaces both north and south of the property;

- the historic approach to the site which consisted, primarily, of foot traffic entering at the northwest corner of the property, moving along the sidewalk along Highway 357, and entering the lower plaza at the northwest corner; and
- the unobstructed view from Gibraltar Island to the Memorial.

The manner in which the Memorial landscape developed over time is illustrated by a set of five maps (Fig. 7, Fig. 12, Fig. 16, Fig. 18, Fig. 21) included within the history section, "Part II." These maps portray the individual features that are associated with five different periods: "1911-1924," "1924-1926," "1927-1931," "1931-1936," and "1936-Today." However, the evaluations of significance are based on the relationship of the feature to the entire period of significance, 1911-1931.

### Topography and Drainage

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is sited on what was in 1911 a low, swampy and narrow isthmus (tombolo) connecting the western and eastern ends of South Bass Island. The site was ideal to meet the design competition criterion of creating an illusion that the Memorial appear to arise directly from the water. However, the swampy nature of the site was the cause of many delays in construction. Efforts to level the site, prevent flooding from winter storms, and correct poor drainage continue into the present day.

The level topography contributed to and maintains the historic character of the 1911-31 landscape. It is significant as an important component of the Beaux Arts design because it functions as the first of three horizontal planes that accentuate and balance the verticality of the column (the plazas being the other two planes).<sup>8</sup>

Although fill material has been added to the grade of the site almost continuously since 1911, its general character as a horizontal, uninterrupted plane has been maintained, and the integrity of this feature is unimpaired.

Grading of the sloping terrace around the lower plaza appears to have been completed by 1915

**Fig. 29** A photograph showing the sloping terrace which had been completed around the lower plaza, but not around the upper terrace, 1915 [13-8-24].



<sup>8</sup> This is evident in Freedlander's drawing for the 1911 design competition and in the implemented landscape.



[13-8-18, 13-8-24]. The 1924 contract included completing the sloping terrace around the upper plaza and laying grass sod over both terraces:

These terraces will be brought to a true grade and over them will be spread a layer of four inches (4") of top soil, fertilized, and the entire surface sodded with a good quality of thick turf.<sup>9</sup>

Winter storms eroded part of the terrace around the south side of the upper plaza before the southern seawall was rebuilt in 1977-1978. The terrace was reconstructed and, today, these sloping terraces contribute to the historic character and can be considered intact features.

When the restrooms were added to the basement of the column in the 1950s, part of the sloped terrace on the east side of the upper plaza was removed and, in the 1984-85 season, granite retaining walls were added. These retaining walls [38] are not historically significant, but are of functional importance and are visually compatible as they were designed using the same materials as the plazas and column. It is not, however, obvious to the casual observer that these are modern additions.

### Circulation Systems

The vehicular circulation system located within the original Memorial grounds existed prior to the construction of the memorial column in 1915. Vehicular traffic historically passed along the north side of the grounds by way of Bayview Avenue (now a designated State highway, State Road 357) [8], along the southwest side on Delaware Avenue, and along the west edge by way of Chapman Avenue [10]. A parking area [41] on the north side of the lower plaza was constructed in 1915 during the initial construction phase.

Bayview Avenue existed as a connection between the east and west ends of South Bass Island prior to construction of the Memorial. Photographic documentation shows this road as a dirt or lightly graveled surface during the early periods (Fig. 30). In 1925, the road was "paved,"<sup>10</sup> probably as a "macadam"<sup>11</sup> surface as indicated on a 1947 survey [NM-PV/5307]. Highway 357 currently has a paved asphalt surface that has been raised over the years. In some areas, particularly at the curve east of the Memorial plazas, the road surface is higher than the sidewalk surface and pedestrians are not protected from vehicular traffic by curbing. In other

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<sup>9</sup> Wadley and Smythe, "Estimate, Re: Parking of Perry Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio," PEVI Commission Records, no date.

<sup>10</sup> Alfred Mongin, *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (N.p.: National Park Service, 1961), p. 285.

<sup>11</sup> "Macadam" is described as a "surface or pavement consisting of layers of crushed stone."

**Fig. 30** A view looking down the county road, Bayview Avenue, directly in front of the Memorial site. This photograph was taken prior to the site clearing which preceded construction, c.1911 [12-2-1].



areas, the curbing poses a tripping hazard because they are higher than the surface of the walks. The existing concrete curbing along this highway appears to be original to, at least, 1925 based on material composition. This roadway, the parking area, and curbs are contributing features because of their association with the historic period. Although the road surfacing material has changed somewhat, the location and scale of the highway are basically intact.

Chapman Avenue [10], which runs along the west side of the historic boundary, also existed prior to the construction of the Memorial grounds as a public street. It was and still is an unpaved, gravel road with no curbing, except for sections at the Highway 357 intersection and the Delaware Avenue intersection. This road retains its integrity by continuing its historic use as a circulation corridor. In addition, it contributes to the historic landscape by clearly defining the western boundary of the site throughout and after the period of significance.

In general, visitors to the site historically arrived at Put-in-Bay at Fox's Dock, located two blocks northwest of the historic property. Pedestrian traffic was generally funnelled from the northwest corner of the grounds (at the intersection of Bayview Avenue and Chapman Avenue) to the north side of the Memorial.



Fig. 31 View of the ferry docks located northwest of the Memorial [by author].



Today, ferries not only disembark visitors at the historic Fox's dock, but another ferry line serves a dock on the southwest side of South Bass Island. Visitors travel to and within Put-in-Bay by golf cart rentals, bicycles, automobiles, by bus, or on foot. Visitors riding the bus are delivered to a facility about a block to the southwest of the historic Memorial grounds. From there, they approach the column from the southwest, often crossing the lawn to reach the front of the lower plaza.

Although the percentages of pedestrians using these various approaches to the Memorial have changed, the historic sidewalks [4, 27, 30, 43] constructed in 1925 have integrity of location and design. However, most of the sidewalks were reconstructed during the 1970s with little loss of integrity, except in the original material. These significant sidewalks include:

- the sidewalk added to the southern seawall [28] when it was first reconstructed in 1925;<sup>12</sup> Although the location of this sidewalk did change when the seawall was rebuilt and extended in 1977-78, the general concept of a seawall with an adjacent walkway along the southern boundary of the site has remained consistent over the years.
- the two sidewalks [27, 43] that transverse the historic grounds diagonally, that were built during the 1925 construction season;
- the short sidewalk [30] connecting the west diagonal walk [27] to the lower plaza; and
- the sidewalk [4] along State Highway 357 (Bayview Avenue).

The walks connecting to the restrooms on the east side of the plazas are functionally important features. The sidewalk closest to the terraces [39] was apparently added in the 1950s when restrooms were first installed under the column. Although it was added after the period of

<sup>12</sup> The southern seawall was initially constructed in 1916, was reconstructed in place in 1924, and again reconstructed with realignments in 1977-78.

significance, it is fairly non-intrusive and is functionally important. The other walk [40] was added in the 1970s for access to the restrooms by visitors with disabilities. It diminishes the historic character, but is functionally very important.

Also noncontributing, but considered functionally important, is the short sidewalk [26] at the south end of the west diagonal walk. This walk replaced an earlier (c.1970s) wooden boardwalk and was added during the 1977-78 seawall reconstruction project.<sup>13</sup> Both an earlier boardwalk and this existing sidewalk function to carry pedestrian traffic entering the grounds from the southwest.

### Structures and Buildings

Within the original (1911-1912) boundaries of the Memorial grounds, most of the structures contribute to the historic character. The Doric-style column [36] and the plazas [34, 35] have historical significance and are the primary structural elements of the historic design. These formally-designed structures are critical trademarks of the Beaux Arts style.

The memorial column and plazas were and continue to be the focus of the historic grounds. The column was built between 1912-1915 and has gone through several restoration treatments; however it is a highly intact feature as the restoration work involved little or no change in the original fabric or form. The superstructures of both the upper and lower plazas and the granite steps connecting the two plazas were completed with the column in 1915. However, a funding shortfall resulted in a delay in paving the plazas. At first the surface was compacted crushed stone; the plazas were paved with large sandstone pavers in the second phase of construction in 1925.<sup>14</sup> According to Freedlander, the initial

...paving of native sandstone was intended as a temporary one [measure] only and was to be replaced in the near future, by a permanent paving of granite, in conjunction with the completion of the Memorial.<sup>15</sup>

Funding did not become available "in the near future" and the sandstone paving remained in place until 1981-84. The National Park Service replaced the, by then, deteriorating sandstone of the lower plaza (Phase I construction, 1981-82) and the upper plaza (Phase II, 1983-84) with

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<sup>13</sup> Ty Burgess, Chief of Maintenance, PEVI, 9 July 1992 interview with Sherda Williams. This boardwalk is confirmed by a photograph dated 1974 (17-6-20). However, dating on some of the PEVI archival photographs are tentative, including this one.

<sup>14</sup> *Special Report: Proposed Repaving of the Memorial Plazas, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio*, by David G. Henderson, 1977.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid*, p. 13.



granite pavers to match the column and plaza walls. The granite pavers, while not considered a replacement-in-kind since sandstone pavers were originally installed, are functionally superior to the sandstone and therefore should be retained.

Steps leading from the lower plaza to the parking area on Bayview Avenue were included in Freedlander's 1924 plan, probably at the Commission's request after the lack of steps on Freedlander's original drawing had been noted by Charles E. Greening (a nurseryman who submitted a landscape plan for the Memorial in 1921). However, congressional appropriations were never "...sufficient to provide...[for] granite steps leading from the lower plaza to the street level."<sup>16</sup> Although several proposals have been made since 1936 by National Park Service planners to construct these steps, the steps were never built and should not be considered a missing historic feature. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* stipulates that:

Designs [or features of a design] that were never executed historically shall not be constructed.<sup>17</sup>

An ancillary structure within the historic grounds is the existing park headquarters building [18], built in 1929. This building was not an element of the Freedlander designs, but reflects management needs, both when it was built in 1929 and later after the site was acquired by the National Park Service. The westernmost portion of the frame building was built in 1929 as a restroom, but was converted to a park headquarters when restrooms were added under the column in the 1950s. The building was enlarged by the eastern addition in 1988. Although the building is a contributing feature and is functionally important for current park operations, the 1988 additions have diminished its integrity to the point that it should be removed when its function can be accommodated elsewhere.

A comfort station (located to the southeast of the plazas and column) was designed by Freedlander in his 1924 plan, but was never built at that location and should not be considered as part of the implemented plan.

The superintendent's residence and garage [14], built in 1951, are considered functionally important features at this time, even though they are somewhat visually intrusive on the historic character. Most of the landscaping designed and installed by the National Park Service near the residence is no longer intact. Because these plants were installed after the period of significance and did not survive for long, they and should not be considered significant.

The visitor contact station [31], added in the early 1970s near the northwest corner of the lower

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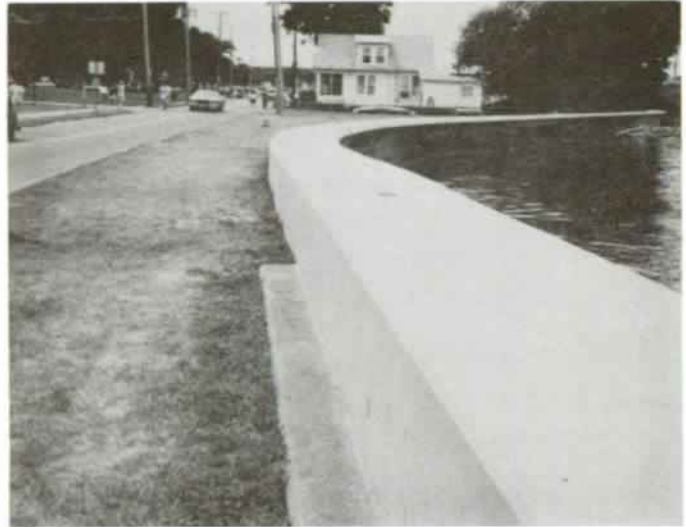
<sup>16</sup> *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, September 1, 1925*, p. 22.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1992.

plaza, is an intrusive and non-contributing feature. Although it has a practical function, it severely diminishes the historic character of the landscape by interrupting both the bi-axial symmetry of the site's design and the horizontal planes that dominate the center of the site.

During construction of the Memorial it quickly became obvious that seawalls were needed along the north and south shorelines to prevent erosion and flooding. The north seawall [9] was built in 1916 as a low retaining wall. It was completely rebuilt in 1934-35, and had additional height and length added in 1977. The 1934-35 seawall is still visible underneath the later addition. The southern seawall was also built as a low retaining wall in 1916, with additional height and length and a sidewalk added in 1925. Because of severe erosion of the sloped terrace along the south side of the upper plaza, this seawall was completely rebuilt in 1977, moving the eastern half further out into the lake. This 1977 seawall was built in a similar alignment to the earlier seawall, is constructed of similar materials and in a similar manner. It retains the general historic character of the earlier feature.

**Fig. 32** View of the north seawall constructed over the earlier 1934-35 seawall [by author].



The configuration of the north seawall [9] is particularly significant in that it duplicates the shoreline configuration requested by Freedlander in early (1914) specifications for landscaping the grounds:

The shore line of the beach on the Bay [north] side shall be straightened out symmetrically as directed, in respect to the east and west axes of the Memorial....<sup>18</sup>

Although the scale and configuration of both seawalls have been somewhat modified over time, both may be considered essentially intact. They contribute to the significance of the landscape because they still serve to structurally define the north and south boundaries of the property and they remain functionally necessary.

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<sup>18</sup> *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, by Alfred Mongin, 1961, "Appendix X," p. 356.



## Vegetative Features

Most of the original vegetation on the isthmus site was essentially all cleared when the construction of the Memorial column began in 1912. Although Freedlander, the designer, intended to leave certain of the pre-existing trees standing when the site was cleared, no photographs or written documents conclusively confirm that these trees were actually retained. However, some of the trees recorded by the field inventory appear to be of a size to date from 1912 or earlier. These include a few maples (*Acer* sp.) [13, 20, 21], an American elm (*Ulmus americana*) [44], London plane trees (*Platanus orientalis*) [11, 12], cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) [24], a northern cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) [46], and some ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), cottonwood and maples along the historic eastern boundary [50-57]. The exact ages of these trees was not determined.<sup>19</sup> All of the species listed are relatively fast-growing trees. It is the author's assessment that, of all of the trees on the site, the cedar [46], London plane trees [11, 12], and the American elm [44] are the most likely to date from the period prior to construction of the Memorial.<sup>20</sup> However, all of these trees should be considered as contributing features since they may be associated with the period of significance.

Fig. 33 Mature deciduous trees massed along the east historic boundary [by author].



<sup>19</sup> An increment borer, a forestry instrument, can be used to extract a core of wood from a tree, thus allowing the rings of annual wood growth to be counted and a fairly close determination of age to be made. The procedure generally does not harm the tree, but the authors did not feel it was necessary to make this more precise determination.

<sup>20</sup> Based on size, relative rate of growth, location, and photographic documentation. The London plane trees clearly show in photograph PV-154, c.1915, which is a panoramic view from the partially completed column.

Freedlander's 1924 design included massed plantings of trees, and some shrubs, along both the eastern and western edges of the original grounds. These vegetative masses emphasized and framed the horizontal planes of the plazas and open lawn areas, and also served to ease the transition from the formality of the central core to the more informal surrounding areas. Photographic documentation suggests that some trees and shrubs were planted along the eastern edge of the property along the eastern boundary of the historic grounds.

Historic trees along the western and southwestern boundaries (Chapman and Delaware Avenues) appeared to have been street trees (planted in a linear, regular pattern). Only two of these trees [21, 25] remain today. Most of these missing trees contributed to the character of the historic landscape and should be restored.

Certain trees were added during the 1924-1926 construction period. These include four Norway maples,<sup>21</sup> which were placed at each end of the two diagonal crosswalks [27 and 43]. Another Norway maple (blown over in a storm in the 1970s), was planted at the intersection of sidewalk [30] and the western diagonal crosswalk [27]. Only one of these maples exists today; the other four are missing, but were significant features [17-6-20].

One of the most distinct vegetative features still in existence today are the sixteen Austrian pines [33] (*Pinus nigra*) growing on the sloped terraces around the plazas. These are remnants of the "40 Large Clipped Austrian Pines" planted in 1925 as specified in Freedlander's design, and planted directly at the insistence of the Commission. In a letter dated October 1924, a commission member states:

...the four groups of pines on the corners of the terraces [have been omitted from the Wadley & Smythe landscaping contract, but]...with the promise however that the planting of the pines be included in the end providing the contract or [sic] can afford to do so.<sup>22</sup>

The sketch on the next page (Fig. 34) illustrates the probable placement of these 40 pines when they were planted in 1925, based on photographic documentation.

In 1934, eleven of these pines were removed from along the terraces at the insistence of the Commissioners because they were interfering with the floodlights which illuminate the column. These trees were apparently transplanted to various locations: three were planted around a fence and transformers (location unknown, but presumably on site), three were planted near the "utility

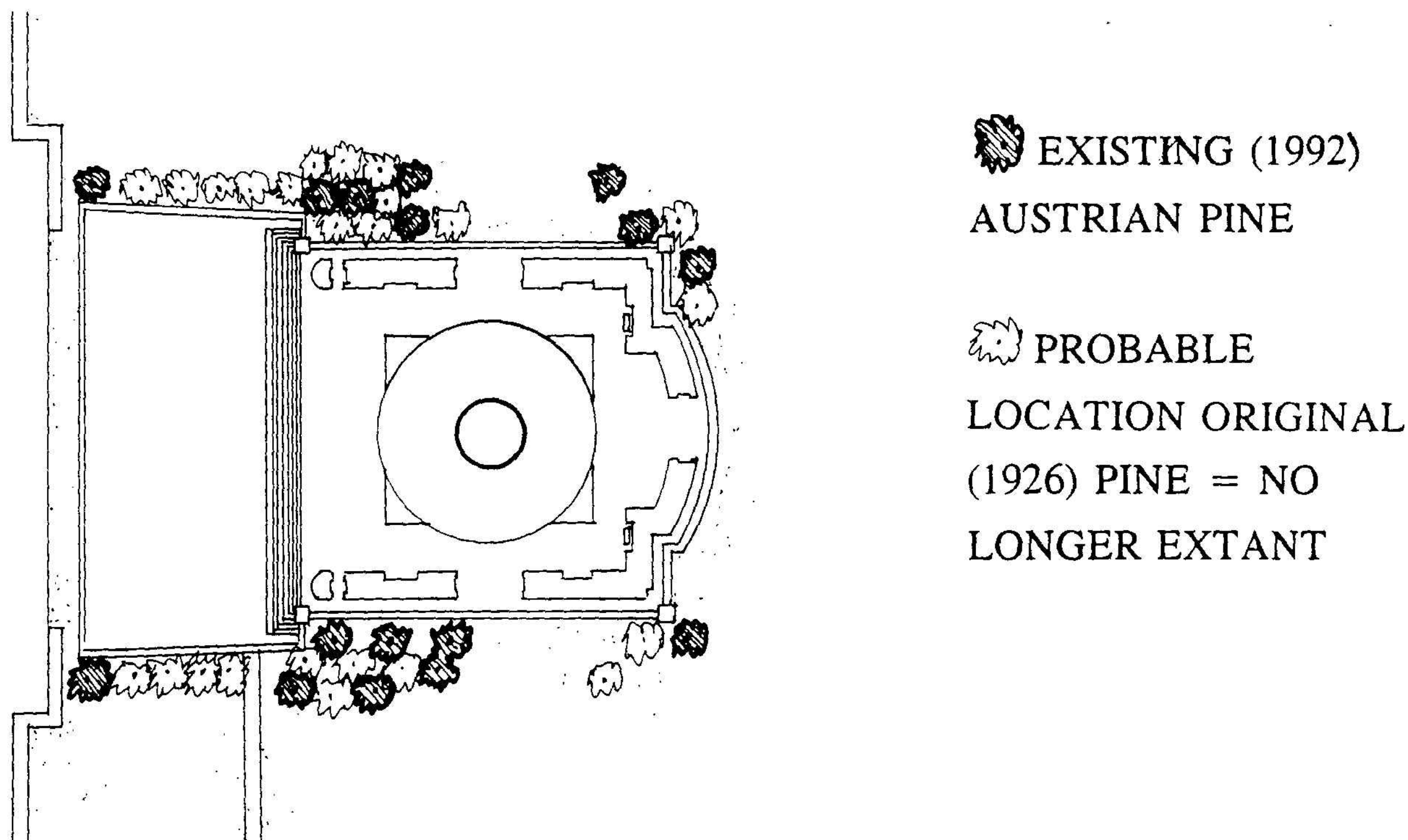
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<sup>21</sup> One of these, [42], is still standing.

<sup>22</sup> Perry's Victory Memorial Commission to Charles Greening, October 19, 1924, PEVI.



Fig. 34 Probable placement of the forty original Austrian pines planted in 1926 [by author].



building" which appears to be the current Park office [18],<sup>23</sup> and five went to the grounds of the Hotel Victory (no longer extant) on the southwest end of South Bass Island. No written documentation was found to indicate when the other thirteen pines were removed.

Today, only sixteen of the forty Austrian pines planted in 1925 survive. However, these trees are no longer in scale with the overall design, having outgrown the "conical," clipped shape that Freedlander specified (see Fig. 35 on next page). The terminal (top) branch of these pines has been removed in the past in an attempt to restrain upward growth. These pines were planted almost as a "structural element" and their uniform conical shape during the period of significance contributed to the overall formal character of the plaza area. The pines were also more in scale with the heights of the sloped terraces and plazas. These pines are historically significant features and are generally intact in location, but not in design. They have lost integrity as a "unit," and no longer function as intended by the original design.

<sup>23</sup> Ty Burgess, Chief of Maintenance at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, remembers at least one pine between the Superintendent's residence and the headquarters building. It was removed sometime in the late 1980s. This tree also appears in photographs tentatively dated c.1947.

Another vegetative feature installed during the 1924-26 construction period were the barberry (*Berberis* sp.) hedges that were planted along all sides of the grounds and which also outlined the planter beds on the upper plaza. These hedges no longer exist, having been removed over several years, beginning in 1932.

The planter beds on the upper plaza were originally specified as "grass panels" by Freedlander's 1924 "Drawing 1A, The Terrace [plaza]." However, these beds were actually planted with barberry hedges during the 1924-1926 construction, and these hedges remained on the plazas until 1933 (Fig. 35, above).<sup>24</sup> Since that time, the panels have been planted to grass, except for the two small front (north) panels which appear to have been planted in geraniums (*Pelargonium* sp.) or other annuals at various times. These panels are original structural features, but no longer retain the hedges that were installed during the period of significance and so have lost some integrity.

Fig. 35 The pruned top of the Austrian pine at the southwest corner gives the appearance of being stunted [by author].



A hedge along the north and the south sides of the grounds was indicated on Freedlander's 1924 landscaping plan, and the 1924 landscaping contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Double row[s] of barberry hedge all around the site" and in the plaza planter beds.<sup>25</sup> These barberry (*Berberis* sp.) hedges around the perimeter of the original property (14.25 acres) were installed in June 1926. During the year 1929, the grounds were flooded four times and the barberry hedges along the shores were washed out and needed to be replanted. Replanting the hedges was delayed a year, apparently due to drought conditions, but the hedges were replanted in 1931. However, by 1932, Warren P. Huntington, president of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission, demanded that the hedges be removed, presumably because of the maintenance

<sup>24</sup> The barberry hedges were in place in the planter beds from 1925 through, at least, 1933. Although some of the photographs supposedly taken during the 1940s show barberry hedging, the 1940s photographs are very tentatively dated. These planter beds were definitely planted in grass by 1959. No documentation was found to explain why these hedges were removed.

<sup>25</sup> Perry's Victory Memorial Commission to Sisson, October 16, 1924, PEVI.



Fig. 36 View across the upper plaza showing geraniums planted in the northernmost beds and barberry hedges planted in the remaining beds, c. 1945 [17-4-40].



expense involved in annual pruning and for aesthetic reasons.<sup>26</sup> The hedge along Bayview Avenue was removed in 1932. However, portions of the hedges along the east half of the south seawall and along Chapman Avenue on the west were still extant in 1938, as recorded by a National Park Service survey done by George Wallace. Portions of the hedge are also clearly visible in photographs [16-7-25 and 17-4-29] through the mid-1940s. It is unclear when these remaining hedges along the south and west boundaries were finally removed.

The barberry hedges were a strong visual design feature of the landscape which were installed during the 1924-1926 construction period. Portions were present into the mid-1940s. They contributed to the formal, architectonic definition of the site which was typical of the Beaux Arts design style.

Fig. 37 One of the four large urns decorating the corners of the upper terrace [by author].



The final significant vegetative feature of the Memorial grounds is the open lawn lying to each side of the plazas. Freedlander's initial (1914) contract for landscaping work included a formula for lawn grass to be seeded in these areas: "Rhode Island Bent, Kentucky Blue, Sheeps Festue [sic] and White Clover."<sup>27</sup> It is unknown if the lawns were planted in this mixture during the construction in 1924-1926, but the mixture is typical of the period. The lawn areas are intact in location, design, scale, feeling and association as components of the historic design.

#### Small-scale Features

While the major structural and vegetative features of the 1911-1931 period of significance are still relatively intact, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is also fortunate in retaining small-scale detail features of Freedlander's design. Foremost of these features are the original granite benches [37] and granite urns on the plazas, c.1925. The four urns were included in Freedlander's 1912 design. The two on the north side of

<sup>26</sup> Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 2, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 4, 1932, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 14, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 18, 1932, PEVI; Huntington to Schnoor, Nov 19, 1932, PEVI; Schnoor to Huntington, Nov 23, 1932, PEVI. The Memorial was consistently understaffed and underfunded throughout the Depression years.

<sup>27</sup> Alfred Mongin, "Appendix X," *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* (N.p.: National Park Service, 1961).



Fig. 38 One of the nine historic benches located on the upper plaza [by author].



the plaza are inscribed with the name of the flagships involved in the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie, a detail that bolsters the commemorative nature of the Memorial. The nine benches (six 6-foot long and three 8-foot long) were probably not installed until after the 1925 paving work on the plazas was completed. Their design and locations are consistent with those shown on Freedlander's 1912 "Sheet No. 12," *Perry Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Lake Erie* construction document. The urns and benches are original features and are intact in location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The existing five sets of floodlights [32] are replacements for those first installed in 1928. They were reinstalled in mid-1980s in approximately the same location, but are not reconstructions of the historic floodlights, probably due to improvements in technology. Although Freedlander's 1924 drawings specified floodlights, it is unknown why they were not installed until after the 1924-1926 construction period. The dramatic night lighting was and is an important characteristic, as Webster Huntington, president of the Commission noted in 1940:

The floodlights make the Memorial by night the most beautiful of electrical spectacles. They can be seen at sea as far as the mouth of the Detroit river, or 40 miles; and their reflection in Lake Erie, on all sides of the illuminated Column, extends to the mainland and follows ships at sea many miles.<sup>28</sup>

The observation deck at the top of the column also once had floodlights that illuminated the urn and penthouse. It is unknown when these were removed.

The two flagpoles [7] that are currently located in the northwest lawn area were placed there fairly recently. A flagpole for displaying the American flag was originally located at the center

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<sup>28</sup> Webster P. Huntington. "Suggestions for a 'Believe It Or Not' Broadcast from the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument," (n.p., 1940), pp. 14-15.

of the north end of the lower plaza. It was placed there in 1942 and probably removed around 1959, when the existing pole for displaying the American flag was erected. In 1975, another new flagpole for displaying the Canadian flag was erected next to the American flagpole. Neither of these existing flagpoles is historic, but both are consistent with the commemorative nature of the site.

The modern lighting fixtures (made of brass, in a cylindrical shape) located around and on the plazas are definitely modern. While they were constructed in a compatible style and materials, they were not installed with the same care and sense of workmanship as the historic features reflect. However, they are functionally important as safety features.

The modern trash containers [1] around the site are visually intrusive because of their incompatible styles, materials and placement. They have a practical purpose, but could be more sensitively designed and located.

Although all existing utility lines have been buried underground, the existing modern utility switching boxes [6] and irrigation control box [29] are intrusive and diminish the historic character of the site. This is particularly true for the boxes located on the western half of the property. The group of utility boxes located at the east side of the upper terrace and at the northeast corner of the historic property are not nearly as noticeable.

Signage [3] on the historic property are all nonhistoric, having been installed after the National Park Service acquired the property in 1936. They are informational or traffic control signs. The sources researched did not reveal any written or photographic documentation of signage on the original property during the 1911-1931 period of significance.

### Patterns of Spatial Organization

Inherent in Joseph Freedlander's design for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial were the views of the Memorial and the views from the Memorial. A major criterion of the 1911 design competition was that the Memorial present the illusion of rising directly from the water. This illusion is still apparent at a distance. The historic ferry approach, which brought visitors around the west and east ends of

**Fig. 39** The view of the Memorial from the water emphasizes the contrast between horizontal planes and the vertical shaft [by author].





South Bass Island, provided visitors with a striking frontal view of the Memorial as the ferry entered Put-in-Bay harbor. This significant view still exists, and is currently protected by U. S. Army Corps of Engineers permitting restrictions that prevent boat traffic from permanently anchoring in front of the Memorial in Put-in-Bay harbor. The open area of water on the south (Lake Erie) side serves as an unobstructed backdrop for the view from the northern approach. These views are basically intact in location, design, setting, feeling and association.

The conformation of the isthmus site itself, where a broad landform narrows and then expands again, naturally forces visual focus upon the central column. In addition, the spatial organization of the historic Memorial grounds functions to focus all visual attention on the column. The horizontal planes of the plazas<sup>29</sup> and open lawn areas to each side of the plazas magnify the vertical preeminence of the column. The site was intended to be contained or enclosed by trees and shrubs massed at both the east and west boundaries of the historic grounds. These vegetative masses frame and enclose the Memorial. Loss of some of the trees at the historic property edges has diminished the sense of spatial enclosure such massing provides. This spatial quality was a characteristic of the original design, and is still intact with only minor losses in the sense of enclosure.

The conscious decisions on the part of the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission and later administrators to bury utility wires underground contributes to the open quality of the landscape. The Commission's 1926 *Seventh Annual Report* recorded that an expenditure:

...for an underground telephone cable through the memorial grounds is to avoid the otherwise certain erection of overhead wires along the street in front of the memorial.<sup>30</sup>

Currently, it is park practice to bury utility lines underground, but there is no written management policy or local zoning legislation to protect the site from intrusions of overhead or aboveground utility lines.<sup>31</sup> This lack of intruding power lines within the property helps to maintain a character of openness and has acquired significance over time.

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is fortunate to retain the original 1911-1912 boundaries of the 14.25 acre historic grounds intact. The historic boundaries were Chapman Avenue [10] on the west side, the seawalls along the north [9] and south [28] sides, and a distinct rise in topography along the east side. The south boundary was moved further south into

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<sup>29</sup> The Austrian pines planted along the terraces have outgrown their original scale and currently distract from the vertical preeminence of the column.

<sup>30</sup> Pg. 14.

<sup>31</sup> Per conversations with park staff.

the lake during the 1977-78 rebuilding of the south seawall. However, all of these boundaries still retain their general configuration from the period of significance.

All of these boundaries were formally and strongly defined by the barberry hedge. The original (1911-1912) boundaries served an important purpose in defining a balanced amount of lawn to each side of the Memorial core. This balance of spaces or features is a typical ingredient of formal styles of landscape architectural design, including the Beaux Arts style. The symmetry of the property is a contributing feature and is fairly intact, although some elements of the boundary definition have been lost, such as the hedging, or weakened, such as the tree masses at the east and west edges.

#### Character of Adjoining Properties

The characteristics of properties adjacent to the historic grounds are significant only in providing an extended setting for the Memorial. These properties have changed character rapidly in recent years as pressures for development increased (both on publicly and privately owned land). A panoramic view [PV-154, c.1915] of the west end of South Bass Island (taken from the top of the column) provided excellent documentation for the historic visual character of

**Fig. 40** A view of Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, Ohio and the Memorial, c.1959 [17-5-4].



Put-in-Bay in the early 20th century, when the primary land use was agricultural.

The block between Chapman Avenue and Toledo Avenue (owned by the National Park Service since 1972) contained seven or eight 1-to-3 story wood frame houses on large residential lots. Street trees lined the block on all sides. Structures have been removed by the National Park Service from this block over the years. Today, only two houses remain: the Wurstner house, used for seasonal employee housing, and the Ladd house, privately owned and to be removed by the owner. Also remaining within this block are three small sheds, each altered to some degree. The loss of historic fabric in this block is so extensive that overall historic spatial



relationships are no longer discernible. Due to the loss of integrity, the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer has declared these structures not eligible for the National Register.

The density of housing and/or commercial buildings was historically lower in the other blocks of the town of Put-in-Bay (to the west). However, the basic visual character of the town, comprised of modestly scaled buildings of wood frame construction, remains.

On the north side of Bayview Avenue, west of the intersection of Toledo Avenue, sits the Rubin house, currently used for employee housing. This building is isolated, but also was historically (see c.1915 photograph [PV-154] and c.1959 photograph [17-5-4]). A boat house and dock located behind the Rubin house were removed prior to the 1977 rehabilitation of the north seawall.<sup>32</sup>

The strongest visual historic characteristics of Bayview Avenue as it extended from the historic grounds toward Fox's Dock were:

- regularly spaced deciduous street trees;
- sidewalks between the trees and Bayview Avenue; and
- 2-3 story wood frame housing on close lots (south side).

There has been almost a complete loss of historic fabric in these areas.

As for the east end of the Island, two fairly early photographs<sup>33</sup> document an agricultural landscape with vineyards and orchards and houses scattered along a central road (now Columbus Avenue). The 7.19 acres added to the Memorial on the east side by the National Park Service in 1959 contained a two-story house prior to acquisition, with mature trees around the house and a barn. This house and barn were removed at an unknown date, but a few trees remain around the former house site: a ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) and a horse chestnut (*Aesculus* sp.). Both of these trees were evidently planted as specimen trees close to the house and probably do not date from the period of significance. They have acquired some significance over time in their own right as beautiful specimen trees.

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<sup>32</sup> Ty Burgess (Chief of Maintenance) interview with Sherda Williams, 9 July 1992.

<sup>33</sup> These photographs are a panoramic view (PV-761), appearing to be from the mid-to-late 1930s (undated), and an aerial (PEVI-MON/PV-720) probably taken in the summer of 1925 (dated c.1920).



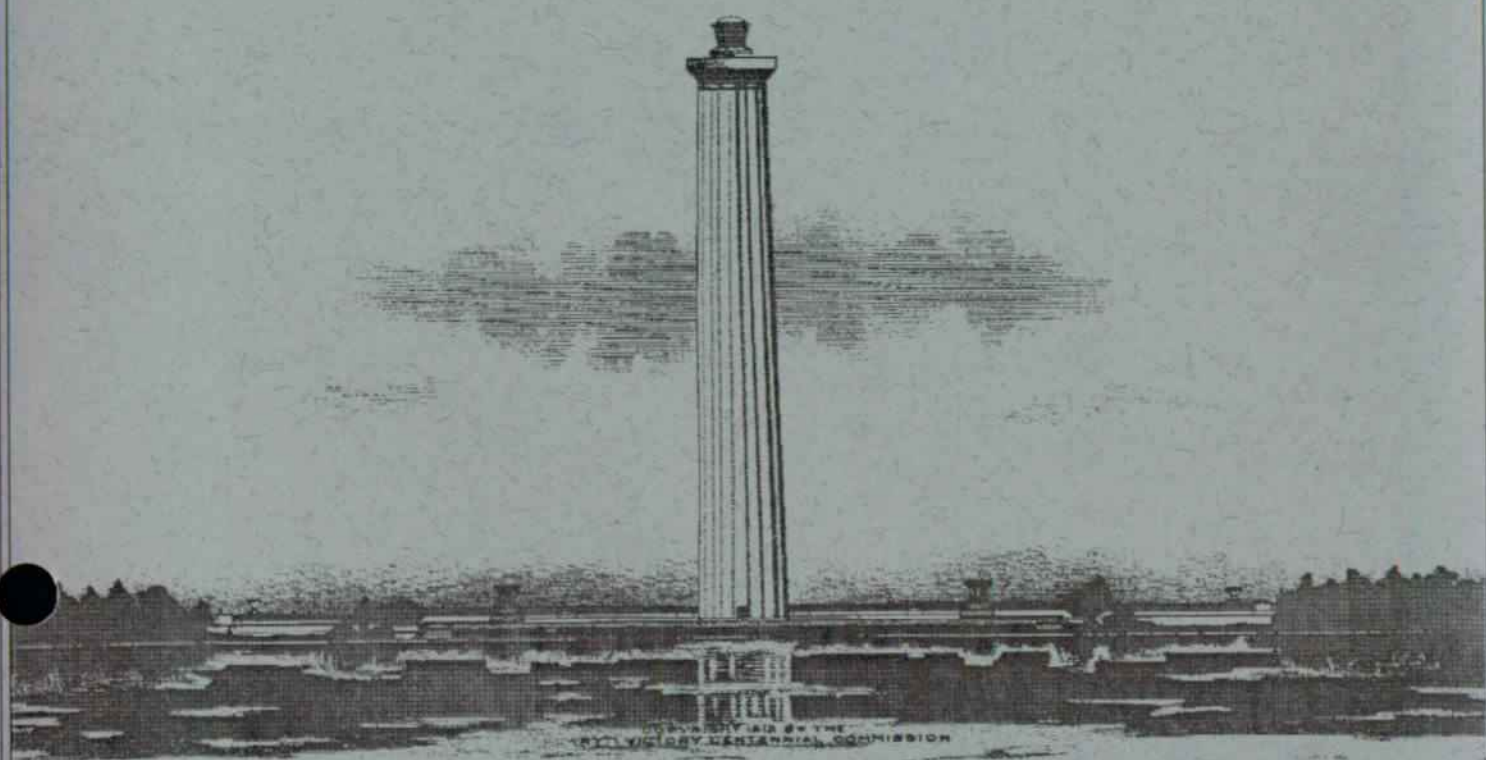


Fig. 42 An early aerial view of the Memorial under construction and the east end of South Bass Island, c. 1925 [17-3-18].



# **Part V**

## **Treatment and Development Alternatives**



DESIGNED BY THE  
ROYAL VICTORY CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



## Introduction

Preceding chapters discussed the significance and integrity of the landscape features of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The recommendations presented in this chapter are intended to: 1) preserve the historic character of the designed Memorial landscape by preserving those individual features and qualities of the property that convey and define that character; and 2) incorporate necessary safety and operational needs without diminishing the historic character.

Preservation efforts applied to a historic landscape may involve one of these four approaches:

- preservation;
- rehabilitation;
- restoration; or
- reconstruction.

These approaches are defined in *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (1992) and guidelines for their application are presented in *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes* (Draft 1992). All of these treatments must be based upon thorough historical documentation and analysis of the character-defining features and components. The park's enabling legislation of June 1936 (49 Stat. 1393), management objectives, and other applicable National Park Service standards must also guide the recommendations developed.

The alternatives for preservation of the 1911-1931 landscape of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial are discussed in this section. Detailed recommendations are then presented for the preferred alternative, using narrative guidelines and an illustrated site plan (Fig. 44).

## Alternatives for Treatment of the Historic Landscape

### Alternative 1: The Recommended Alternative, "Rehabilitation"

The general preservation strategy recommended for application to the historic (1911-1931) 14.25-acre portion of the Memorial landscape is a "rehabilitation" treatment:

The goal of **rehabilitation** is also to retain the historic character of a property, but this treatment allows for alterations and additions that are necessary for contemporary use. Rehabilitation allows for improvements to a historic property, that makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historical or cultural values.

Thus, all the basic principles that apply to preservation [as a treatment] also apply to rehabilitation.<sup>1</sup>

After consultation with the park manager and staff, rehabilitation was chosen as the most appropriate and practical approach for treatment. Rehabilitation is an approach where contemporary park management and administrative needs and contemporary legal requirements may be accommodated while retaining the significant historic character of this landscape. It recognizes that some changes to the landscape are indeed necessary to accommodate the safety and legal issues raised during the 1992 Development Concept Plan (DCP) process.<sup>2</sup> These issues include concern about conflicts between pedestrian and vehicular traffic as visitors approach the Memorial, and other legal and safety requirements of appropriate federal regulations.<sup>3</sup>

Rehabilitation will also meet the goal of preserving the historic character and features of the Beaux Arts style landscape. It will necessitate removal of some of the more intrusive and nonhistoric features (such as the existing visitor contact station); but it also allows retention of some of the non-contributing features (such as the superintendent's residence) that continue to perform necessary functions. By policy, this treatment also allows limited restoration of some of the missing features that contributed to the historic character. Detailed recommendations for this alternative begin on page 109.

## **Treatment Alternatives Not Recommended**

### Alternative 2: "Preservation"

The preservation treatment is the closest acceptable approach to a "no action" alternative. The definition of preservation:

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<sup>1</sup> National Park Service, *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*, Draft 1992, p. 11.

<sup>2</sup> U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, *Development Concept Plan [DCP] Revision*, 1992.

<sup>3</sup> *Architectural Barriers Act* (PL 90-480) of 1968, as amended through 1978; the *Rehabilitation Act* of 1973, as amended in 1978; and the *Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards* of 1988.



...calls for retaining and maintaining the materials, features, and spaces which characterize the property. Replacement of historic materials is as limited as possible. This treatment includes ongoing and cyclical maintenance activities.... The purpose of this treatment is the retention of the property's existing form and materials.<sup>4</sup>

The preservation treatment is the minimal-level intervention to existing conditions. It does not accommodate changes to meet new legal codes and conditions. It also does not recognize the presence of intrusive features that diminish the historic character of the landscape. This approach, specifically, does not address: 1) the identified need for archival facilities and for a visitor center;<sup>5</sup> 2) the requirements for accommodating visitors with disabilities and safety concerns such as conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles; nor 3) the significance of the historic Beaux Arts style landscape.

This treatment would require no initial financial expenditures, but may lead to expensive outlays in the future if legal and safety issues are ignored. This treatment, therefore, is not considered as a viable approach.

### Alternative 3: "Restoration"

Restoration of the historic landscape of the 1911-1931 period of significance is another treatment that was considered but rejected.

**Restoration** differs from preservation and rehabilitation since it may involve the removal of later historic features, or the addition of missing historic features in order to depict the appearance of the landscape at a specific earlier period. This treatment is used to illustrate a narrow period in the landscape's history, not its history as evolved. As a result, materials or features that relate to a later period of significance may be removed or substantially altered. Therefore, restoration is a treatment that should only be considered when the landscape's earlier history is so significant that it justifies removal or alteration of features or materials that would ordinarily be retained.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> National Park Service, *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*, Draft 1992, p. 11.

<sup>5</sup> As identified in the *Development Concept Plan [DCP] and Assessment of Alternatives*, by U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1978 and in the *Development Concept Plan [DCP] Revision, Environmental Assessment, Interpretive Prospectus*, by U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, Draft 1992.

<sup>6</sup> National Park Service, *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*, Draft 1992, p. 11-12.

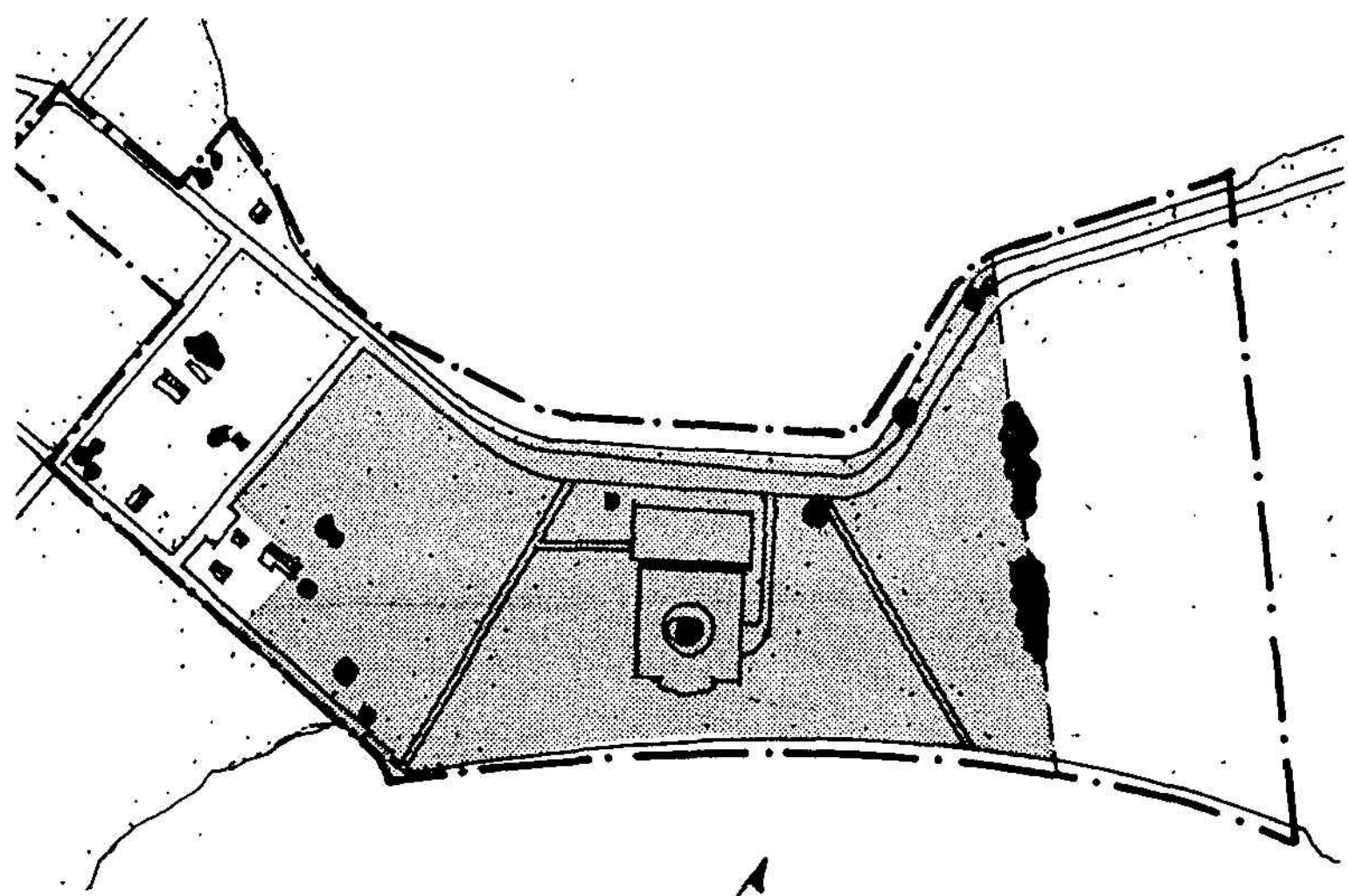
Restoration of the historic landscape would be possible since this is a fairly intact and well-documented landscape. However, full restoration of the landscape to the period of significance has the disadvantage of not meeting contemporary needs and safety issues, as mentioned under the preservation approach. It would require removal of intrusive features within the 14.25-acre boundaries that do not relate to the specified period of significance. This would include removing the superintendent's residence and garage, the utility control boxes, the restrooms and retaining walls under the upper plaza, the flagpoles, and some of the modern small-scale features (the majority which accommodate some necessary management function). This approach was therefore not considered a viable alternative.

#### Alternative 4: "Reconstruction"

The treatment of reconstruction is appropriate only for a landscape that has lost most, if not all, of its integrity. The landscape of Perry's Victory still retains a good portion of its character-defining features, so reconstruction is not an appropriate option.

#### **Recommendations for "Rehabilitation"**

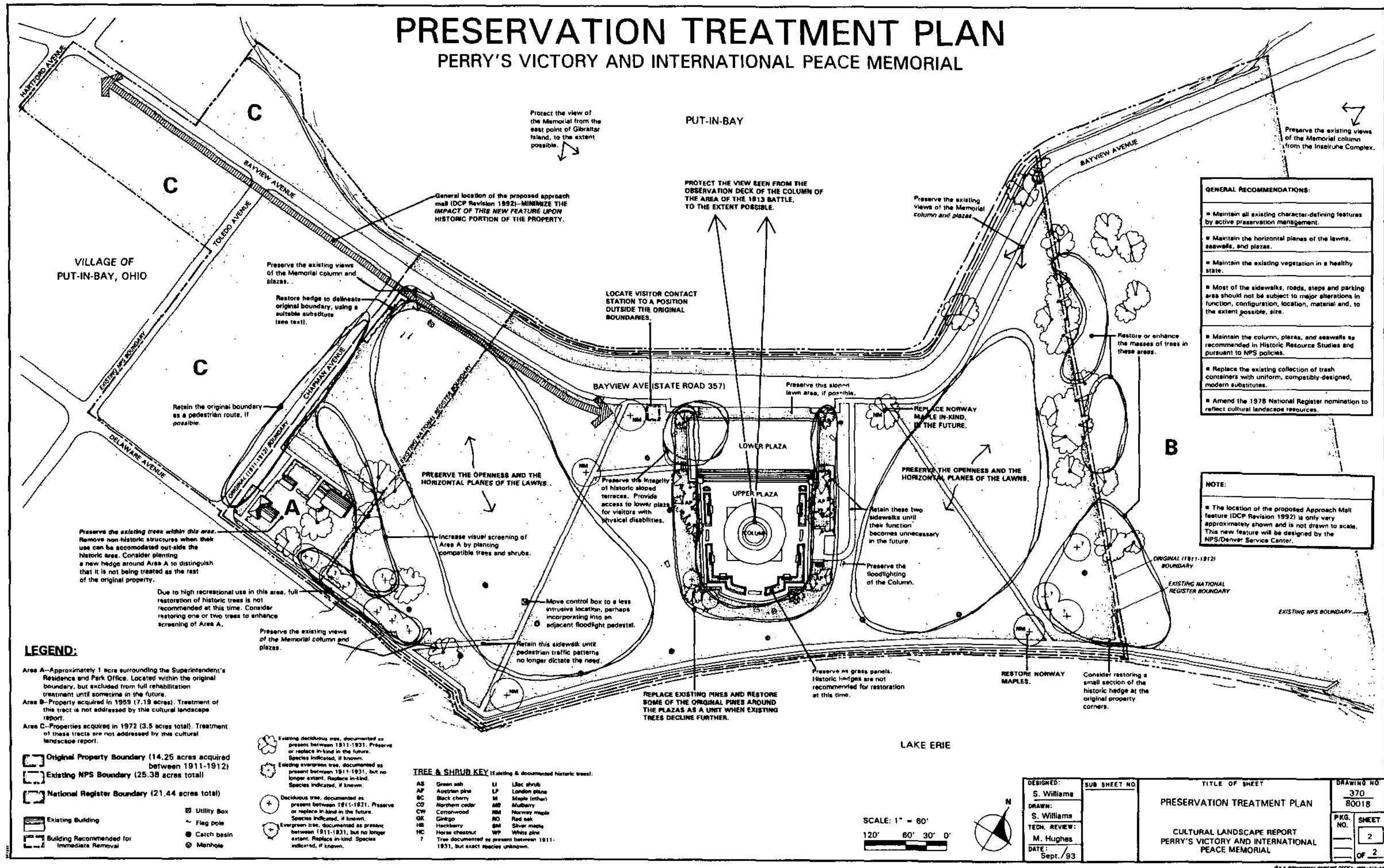
The following recommendations for rehabilitation apply to all of the 14.25 acres within the historic boundaries, except for approximately one acre at the southwest corner of the original property [A].<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup> This exempted area [A] is at the intersection of Chapman and Delaware Avenues, and includes approximately one acre surrounding the superintendent's residence, garage and lawn and the park headquarters and adjacent parking lot (see Fig. 46). This area retains less integrity than the remainder of the original Memorial grounds. The existing buildings accommodate necessary management functions at the present time and for the near future. A long-term goal for this excluded area should be consideration of removing the structures and restoring the character of the area to that of the period of significance. Recommendations relating to this area are, therefore, presented separately (see page 120).



Fig. 44 Preservation Treatment Plan [by author].



## Significant Features

The most significant characteristics of the historic 14.25-acre landscape during the period of significance (1911-1931) must be preserved while adapting the site to meet contemporary needs. As a review, these characteristics are:

- The horizontality of the landscape setting which accentuates the vertical column. The horizontal planes are defined by the open lawns, the two plazas [34, 35], the steps to the upper plaza, the missing barberry hedging and the seawalls [9, 28]. The vertical focus of the site is the column [36]. The historically small-scaled, conical Austrian pines [33] served to soften the interface of these planes.
- Definition of the boundaries of the Memorial. The sense of openness in the center of the grounds is defined by the open lawn areas, flat plazas, and water surfaces to each side of the column and was historically framed by the vegetative masses [11-12, 20-21, 50-57] at the western and eastern edges of the historic grounds. The seawalls [9, 28] crisply define the north and south boundaries and accentuate the horizontality of the lawn and plaza planes.
- The integration of architecture and landscape, typical of the Beaux Arts style. The simple formality of the site was historically defined by the architectonic design of the plazas [34, 35], seawalls [9, 28], diagonal sidewalks [27, 43], and by the formally clipped or pruned Austrian pines [33] and the hedges. The bi-axial symmetry of the Memorial column and plazas was balanced by the open lawn areas, by Norway maple trees [one remains: 42] planted at the ends of the diagonal sidewalks, and, more informally, by the masses of vegetation at the western and eastern edges of the historic grounds.
- Views to and from the memorial. These include the views of the Memorial from a distance while approaching South Bass Island by boat, the view of the grounds from the eastern end of Gibraltar Island, and views of the column from the historic grounds. The view from the column to the site of the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie is critical for interpretation.

The recommendations presented below relate to these general characteristics. They are discussed as "General Recommendations" that refer to the entire 14.25-acre historic property and then more specifically as topic areas organized in the same manner as the previous chapters: "Topography and Drainage" and "Vegetative Features," etc. The recommendations are presented as either a "Recommended Action" or as a "Suggestion for Future Action (or Design)."



The "Recommended Actions" are those which will maintain or restore the historic character, and are of highest priority in rehabilitating the landscape. The "Suggestions" are of a lower priority, and are generally dependent on changes in environmental or management conditions.

### General Recommendations

- Maintain all existing character-defining features by active preservation maintenance.
- Amend the 1978 *National Register of Historic Places -- Nomination Form, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* to reflect the cultural landscape resources identified in this *Cultural Landscape Report* (see Appendix E, page 147 of this text and see also *NPS 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, Release No. 4, Draft 1992).

### Specific Recommendations

#### Topography and Drainage

- The sloped terraces around the plazas are clearly contributing features. During the upcoming process of designing an access route to the plazas for visitors with physical disabilities, the impact the proposed design will have on these terraces should be fully explored (Phase II development of the Approach Mall).<sup>8</sup>

Recommended Action: Provisions for access to the plazas should be "undertaken in a manner so that removal in the future would not impair the essential form and integrity"<sup>9</sup> of the slopes or other historic features.

Suggestions for Future Design: It is suggested that the existing grade be retained, and that installation of an access ramp for visitors with physical disabilities should be done

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<sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *Development Concept Plan Revision. Interpretative Prospectus*, 1992.

<sup>9</sup> *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* by the U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., 1992, p. 2.

sensitively as a clearly modern, but compatible design. A free-standing (not built into the grade) ramp might be considered, so that the integrity of the sloped terraces is not diminished or destroyed and the character remains visible.

- The flat planes of lawn are significant contributing components of the historic design.

Recommended Action: Maintain the level grades as open, flat lawn areas on either side of the plazas to retain the symmetry of the design.

- The drainage systems for such a level and low site are critical in maintaining many features of the site in good condition.

Recommended Action: Maintain the drainage systems so water is carried off the site efficiently. Undertake regular maintenance of the drainage structures by clearing drain intakes and catch basins [2] of accumulated trash and keeping grass from growing over the drainage grates.

## Circulation Systems

- The existing access corridors to the Memorial (both vehicular and pedestrian) have not substantially changed and are character-defining features of the historic landscape.

Recommended Action: Most of the sidewalks [4, 22, 27, 30, 43], all roads [8, 10], steps, and the parking area [41] should not be subject to major alterations in function, configuration, location, material and, to the extent possible, size. Exceptions are the sidewalk [26] connecting the west diagonal walk to the Village beach and the two sidewalks [39, 40] providing access to the restrooms under the upper plaza. See recommendations below for treatment of these excepted walks.

- The sidewalk [26] connecting the west diagonal walk to the Village beach does not contribute to the historic character of the landscape and is documented as a modern feature. However, it does provide access to the site for the increasing number of visitors that enter at the southwest corner of the historic grounds.

Recommended Action: This sidewalk should be retained until pedestrian traffic patterns no longer dictate a need.

Suggested Future Action: In the future, if management needs change, consideration should be given to removal of the sidewalk.



■ The two walks on the east side of the plazas currently provide access from the lower plaza to the restrooms [sidewalk 39]. The wider sidewalk [40] was added to provide access to the restrooms for persons with a handicapping condition. Both of these walks are modern and non-contributing, but do perform an acknowledged contemporary function.

Recommended Action: These sidewalks should be retained at this time.

Suggested Future Action: These walks should be removed if their function becomes unnecessary in the future.

■ The sidewalk [4] along State Highway 357 (Bayview Avenue) is a historic, contributing feature. There is a safety need to separate pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the Approach Mall as recommended in the Development Concept Plan.

Recommended Action: The new Approach Mall "shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment."<sup>10</sup>

Suggestions for Future Design: It is suggested that the location and general alignment of the historic sidewalk be retained but widened to meet minimum standards for bicycle traffic. Pedestrian use can then be accommodated by construction of a new sidewalk, separated from the bicycle sidewalk. It would be appropriate to use a low hedge to separate the bicycle and pedestrian lanes as this would restore a historic feature in its approximate historic location.

■ The Development Concept Plan<sup>11</sup> suggests that at least part of Chapman Avenue [10] be removed during new development. This road is significant in providing one of the original boundaries of the historic property and as a circulation corridor.

Recommended Action: If Chapman Avenue is removed as part of future development, the original (1911-1912) west boundary should be delineated in some manner. Consideration might be given to closing the street to vehicular traffic but continuing its use as a pedestrian route.

■ The lawn area between the lower plaza and the parking area currently contains only a small flight of stairs near the present visitor contact station. Several times since the National Park

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<sup>10</sup> U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, 1992.

<sup>11</sup> *Development Concept Plan [DCP] Revision, Environmental Assessment, Interpretive Prospectus* by the U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, August 1992.

Service acquired Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial it has been proposed by designers that a full flight of steps, extending the same width as the plazas, be built in this area. Freedlander's original 1912 competition drawing and model both included a full flight of stairs connecting the lower plaza with the street. In Freedlander's 1924 plan, two small stairs, one at each edge of the plaza, were included.<sup>12</sup> However, neither of these proposals for stairs were carried out during the period of significance. Over time, the green lawn in this area has acquired some significance.

Recommended Action: Retain this lawn area, if possible.

Suggestions for Future Design: If the volume of visitation increases in the future and construction of steps in this area is desired, it is recommended that the new construction be clearly nonhistoric but compatible in style, scale and materials.

### Structures and Buildings

■ The existing visitor contact station [31] is located so that it intrudes upon the historic character of an area of the property that would otherwise have high integrity. This structure distinctly interrupts the flat planes of the lawn areas and the plazas as designed by the architect, who intended that no structures intrude upon this central area. In speaking of his idea for a proposed museum and colonnade to each side of the column, Freedlander notes that the:

...setting [of the column] as the central motive in the composition will insure a degree of dignity impossible to obtain were the other buildings [museum and colonnade] placed in close proximity.<sup>13</sup>

The existing visitor contact station is a vertical intrusion in this area and diminishes the historic character of the designed landscape.

Recommended Action: Locate the visitor contact station to a position outside of the original boundaries of the 14.25-acre historic property.

■ The column [36], plazas [34, 35] and seawalls [9, 28] are all significant contributing features.

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<sup>12</sup> These proposed stairs were probably included in Freedlander's 1924 plan at the Commission's request after a lack of steps on his original drawing had been noted by Charles E. Greening (a nurseryman who submitted a landscape plan for the memorial in 1921).

<sup>13</sup> Joseph H. Freedlander in *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial* by Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners, 1913, p. 37.



**Recommended Action:** Maintain these structures pursuant to recommendations contained in historic structure reports, pursuant to National Park Service policies.

### **Vegetative Features**

■ The existing trees, shrubs, and lawn within the historic boundaries are generally character-defining (consult Appendix A for a feature-by-feature assessment of contributing or noncontributing items).

**Recommended Actions:** Maintain the existing vegetation in a healthy state by accepted fertilizing, watering and pruning practices. It is recommended that a professional arborist be consulted to assess the condition of the existing vegetation and provide recommendations on maintaining and prolonging their healthier life. This existing vegetation is designated on the "Preservation Treatment Plan" (Fig. 44) and includes:

- the vegetation [45-57] clustered along the eastern historic boundary (approximately fifteen trees and a few shrubs);
- the Norway maple [42] located at the intersection of the east diagonal sidewalk and Bayview Avenue. This tree should be assessed by a professional arborist. It should be replaced when the four other missing Norway maples are restored, if its condition requires replacement within five years; and
- the trees [11-13, 20-21, 24-25] clustered at the southwest corner of the historic property near the superintendent's residence (approximately seven trees).

**Recommended Future Actions:** When the trees above deteriorate to the point where they are unsafe or no longer contribute to the historic character, they should be replaced in-kind.

■ Character-defining trees and shrubs that were present during the period of significance but are no longer extant are designated on the "Preservation Treatment Plan" (Fig. 44).

**Recommended Action:** Restore these trees by replacing in-kind with either the identified species on the "Preservation Treatment Plan" or with a species suggested in Appendix D. These trees include:

- the trees that were at the southeast corner of the property (approximately three trees). One pine tree and an ash tree were removed when they died due to repeated flooding. Other trees may have been removed when the south seawall was reconstructed in the 1970s;

- the four Norway maples located at each end of the diagonal walks [27, 43] and at walk [30]; and
- the trees along Chapman Avenue (approximately three trees).

Fig. 45 A view of the Memorial from the northwest showing the Austrian pines before they grew out of scale, c.1935 [17-4-8].



■ The Austrian pines [33] around the plazas are significant, character-defining features. Eleven pines are currently intact, but twenty-nine of the forty pines planted in 1924 are no longer extant. Eleven of these twenty-nine pines were removed for a very practical reason: they were interfering with the floodlights that illuminate the column.

**Recommended Future Action:** The ultimate goal of this rehabilitation effort is to restore the clusters of conical, formally pruned, dark green-colored pines along the sloped terraces. Therefore, when more of the existing pines are lost, all the currently existing pines and some of the pines that were removed or died over the intervening years should be replaced. These pines should be replanted in their approximate original pattern, but spacing necessary to accommodate the floodlights should be maintained.

These pines should eventually be replaced, either in-kind, or with an appropriate substitute. There are two disadvantages to continuing to use Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*) in this situation. First, Austrian pine is a medium to fast grower<sup>14</sup> and would rapidly grow too tall, losing the desired conical shape and height. Secondly, Austrian pines in

<sup>14</sup> A growth rate of 35 to 50 feet in height over 20 to 30 years according to Dirr in *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, 3rd ed. rev. 1983, p. 516.



the region are being attacked by a tip blight. Although the isolated nature of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial site may protect pines from tip blight, a substitution of Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldrichi leucodermis*) may be considered. Bosnian pine is resistant to tip blight, is hardy in this area, and looks very similar to Austrian pine. It grows at a slower rate and could, therefore, be expected to retain the desired conical shape and small size for a longer period with less maintenance than that required by the Austrian pines. However, any pine used in this situation will need to be replaced periodically as the trees mature. A professional arborist can provide an assessment of how often shearing and replacement should occur.<sup>15</sup> Pruning of the top growth leader ("topping") in order to restrain upward growth should not be practiced.

- The barberry hedges in the planting beds on the upper plaza historically were in place for eight years (1926-1933) during and slightly beyond the period of significance. It is unknown why these hedges were removed.

Recommended Action: Replacement of these hedges does not appear practical at this time because of management concerns for maintenance and operational efficiency.

Suggested Future Action: If park management should decide to replace these hedges in the future, all panels (except the two small front panels) should be treated the same: a single row of a dwarf species of barberry should be used to outline the beds. The hedge should be maintained by pruning as an informal, rounded and low form [17-4-40]. The exact species of barberry historically planted is not adequately documented, although *Berberis thunbergii* was the most likely species used during this period. A substitution of a hardy, green-colored, dwarf species of barberry is acceptable (see Appendix D).

- The barberry hedges were in place during the period of significance: they were planted in 1926, but some portions were washed out by flooding in 1929 and were not immediately replaced because of a subsequent drought. The hedges helped to define the original boundaries and emphasized the horizontal planes of the Beaux Arts design. Although these hedges were replaced, a severe lack of funding for maintenance during the Depression meant that a lack of pruning and poor trash removal resulted in a fairly "scraggly" appearing hedge. As a result, the hedging along Bayview Avenue was considered as an undesirable feature by the custodian and Commission members and was removed in 1932. Other portions of the hedge survived for twenty years, into the mid-1940s [17-4-39].<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> This may be as often as every 15 years or might be delayed to every 30 years.

<sup>16</sup> The problems encountered historically with the hedge included: 1) plants which were physically washed out by winter flooding (this was three or four years after planting) and 2) a lack of funding during the Depression for maintenance (both for pruning and for removing trash trapped in the hedge). Flooding has not been as severe since the 1977-78 seawall rehabilitation, and standing water on the site usually drains within 24 hours. Therefore, replacing this character-defining feature is considered by the author to be a feasible action at some future time.



Recommended Action: Because these hedges would be a modern maintenance problem due to litter being trapped in branches and possible damage from ice and flooding, and could limit circulation across the site, they are not recommended to be replaced in their entirety at this time. However, the hedges could be partially replaced along Chapman Avenue and around the Superintendent's residence, which would help define the original boundary.

Suggested Future Action: If, in the future, a higher level of maintenance money become available it is recommended that the missing hedge feature be replaced in its entirety, with the following exceptions:

- the area at the southwest corner of the historic property where the Superintendent's residence is located (A on the "Preservation Treatment Plan") should be defined by outlining this area with the hedging, instead of replacing the hedge in its historic location along Delaware and Chapman Avenues. This will illustrate for the visitor that this area is not being treated at the same level as the remainder of the historic property; and
- the hedging along the eastern 1911-1912 boundary may be shaded out by plantings proposed by the 1992 Development Concept Plan on the adjacent non-historic tract. If this would appear to be the case, the hedging along this boundary should not be planted.

Additionally, in the design of the Approach Mall (Development Concept Plan) a hedge might be used to separate the walkways for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. This suggestion would restore a historic feature (the hedge) to its approximate historic location.

The hedges should be planted in a single row and be maintained at a three-foot height. It is recommended that a substitute species, such as bayberry or a low-growing variety of privet, be used instead of barberry.<sup>17</sup> The maintenance burden could be minimized by use of a low-growing variety which would require little or no pruning (see Appendix D).

An alternative to using hedges to define the original boundaries is to create a low structural element, such as a simple low fence that is similar in massing and scale to the hedges, but is clearly a modern addition.

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<sup>17</sup> The feasibility of using barberry (*Berberis* sp.) was discussed with regional nursery experts with a consensus that, although barberry could withstand the harsh climatic extremes of the site, they are susceptible to a fungal *Phytophthora* root rot if they stand in water or in saturated soil for 24 hours or longer. Since standing water or saturated soil is probable under current conditions, barberry is not recommended.



- The open areas of lawn are contributing features, but are more significant for the visual prominence of the flat plane they create than for the specific grass composition.

Recommended Action: Maintain the lawn areas as open, flat horizontal planes. Although a lawn mixture is specified by the 1914 contract (a contract which was not fully implemented),<sup>18</sup> it is not necessary to replace the existing lawn. It is recognized that public expectations of a memorial landscape would preclude a historic lawn mix that contains a large proportion of clover and non-contemporary grasses. The lawn should be renovated to eliminate the effects of soil compaction and maintained in a healthy condition.

### Small-scale Features

- The trash containers [1] scattered around the site are nonhistoric and noncontributing, but are functionally necessary features.

Recommended Action: Replace the existing collection of trash containers with uniform, compatibly-designed, modern substitutes. Placement should be done sensitively, so that the containers are not visually intrusive.

- Lighting fixtures on the plaza and its steps are non-historic, non-contributing, but functionally necessary features.

Recommended Action: These lighting fixtures should be considered for replacement if the steps are ever replaced or repaired. At that time, they should be replaced with more compatible fixtures and placed in less obtrusive locations.

- Although the brass handrails on the stairs on the plazas and the guardrail on the upper plaza wall above the restrooms are non-historic (1984-1985), they are fairly compatible and should be maintained.

- There is no historical precedent for the two flagpoles [7] located in the northwest corner of the property. They have not existed in this location long enough to have acquired significance; however, they are recognized as fulfilling contemporary functions and enhancing the commemorative nature of the site.

Recommended Action: Maintain the existing flagpoles in-place.

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<sup>18</sup> Included as Appendix X of *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, 2 volumes, by Alfred Mongin, National Park Service, 1961, p. 358.

Suggestion for Future Design: Moving these flagpoles to a position outside of the historic 14.25-acre property would enhance the integrity of the historic Memorial grounds.

### Patterns of Spatial Organization

■ The existing views of the column from within the boundaries of the historic 14.25-acre property are probably significant. Historic postcards and photographs in archives at the site generally document these views; however, no written documentation was located that specifically recorded a visitor's visual impression of the Memorial. Views of the Memorial were prominent in Freedlander's design concept (as articulated in his article included as Appendix B).

Recommended Action: Maintain the existing views within the historic grounds as shown on the "Preservation Treatment Plan."

■ The viewshed from the east end of Gibraltar Island to the Memorial (although outside of direct National Park Service control) is one of the more critical components of the historic character of the site.

Recommended Action: This viewshed should be protected to the extent possible.

Suggested Action: The expanse of Lake Erie to the south side of the Memorial should also be maintained in the existing open condition as feasible.

■ The view from the observation platform of the column to the area of the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie is still intact and is an essential component of the site's interpretative programs.

Recommended Action: This important view should also be protected, to the extent possible.

■ The spatial organization of the historic Memorial grounds functions to focus all visual attention on the column. The horizontal planes of the plazas and the open lawn areas to each side of the plazas magnify the vertical preeminence of the column.

Recommended Action: Maintain these open, horizontal planes of the lawns and the plazas. New vertical elements should not be introduced in these areas and the existing vertical intrusion of the visitor contact station [31] should be removed.

■ The site was designed and constructed to be framed by trees and shrubs massed at both the east and west boundaries of the historic grounds.



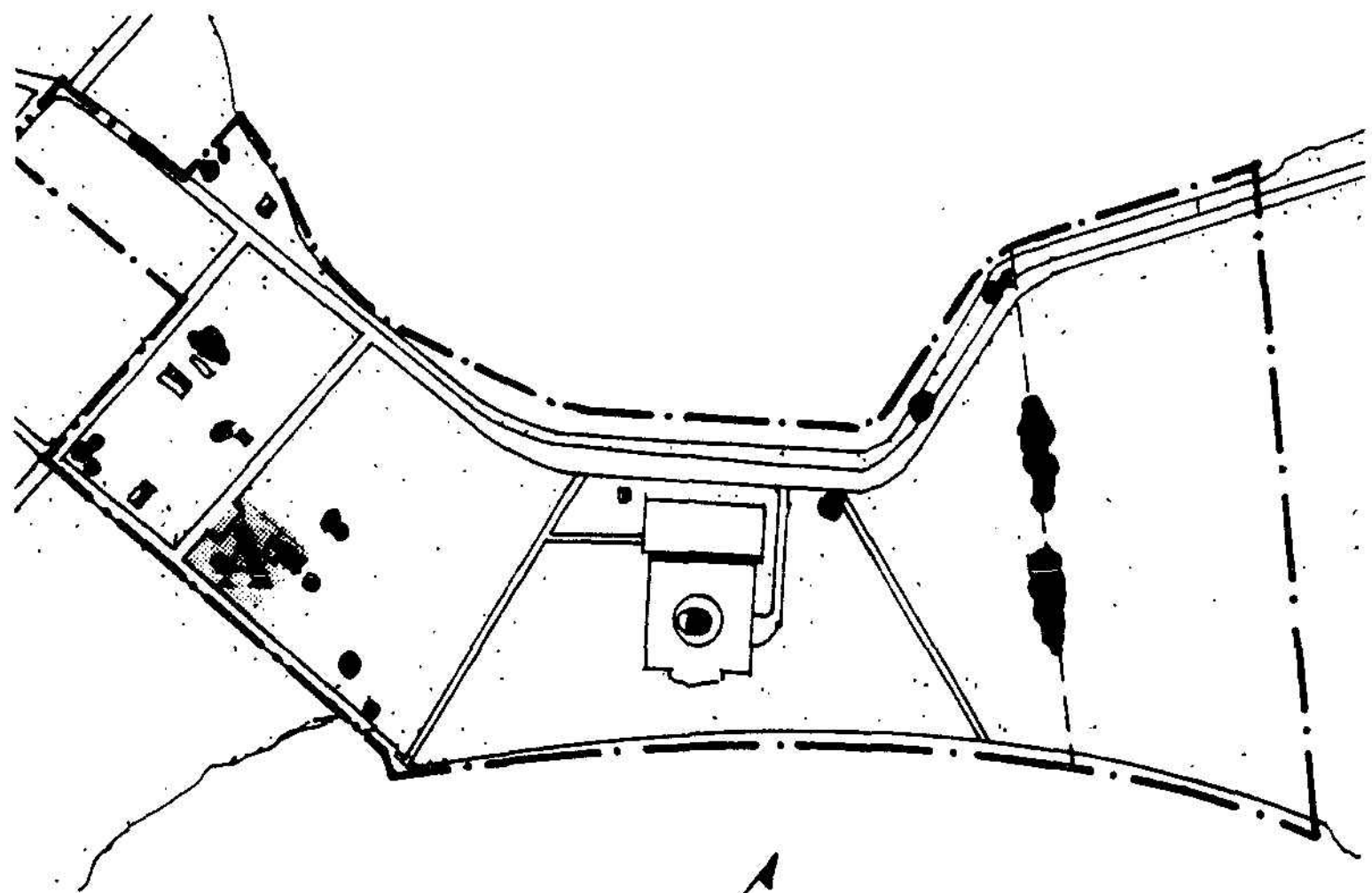
**Recommended Action:** Restore these vegetative masses by replacing, in-kind, the vegetation that is no longer extant (see recommendations under "Vegetative Features" above).

**Recommendations for Excluded Area [A] Around  
Park Administrative Structures in Southwest Corner**

The area around the superintendent's residence, garage and the park headquarters building is located within the original boundaries of the Memorial. However, this area has lost several historic vegetative features and contains three structures which diminish the integrity. Recommendations for treatment of this area [A] are, therefore, addressed separately here.

■ No actions should cause further diminishment of the historic character of this area.

Fig. 46 Area A.



**Recommended Action:** Maintain the historic features (trees 11-13, 20-21, boundary definition, general sidewalk alignment, 22, and lawn) in this area according to National Park Service standards and policy.

**Suggested Future Action:** It is suggested that the historic trees missing from this area be replanted in-kind (as designated on the "Preservation Treatment Plan"). If the historic tree species is unknown and is not designated on the Plan, they should be replaced with a species suggested in Appendix D if possible. This includes those trees historically located along Chapman and Delaware Avenues (see Fig. 44).

**Suggested Future Action:** If the structures in this area are removed in the future, the area should be treated as rigorously as the remainder of the historic property since the intrusive buildings are the major cause of a loss of integrity in this area.

- The superintendent's residence and garage [14] are intrusive, but currently serve vital administrative functions. The park office [18] was built during the period of significance, but alterations have diminished its integrity.

Recommended Action: A diffused, soft, vegetative screening of these structures (from the view of visitors on the plazas and along Bayview Avenue) is recommended. Partial screening will be achieved by the previous recommendation to replace the missing historic trees. In addition, shrubs and deciduous trees, and perhaps a few evergreen trees should be planted.

Suggested Future Action: When, and if, it becomes possible to accommodate the functions of these structures in a location outside the historic boundary of the Memorial landscape, these structures should be removed and this area returned to its historic character.

- The hedge that defined the historic west and south boundaries of this area was a contributing feature.

Recommended Action: It is recommended that a new hedge be planted to the north and east of the superintendent's residence and the park headquarters building (see the "Preservation Treatment Plan"). A new hedge surrounding this area will help visitors distinguish which areas of the historic landscape have and have not been treated under this rehabilitation effort.

### Suggestions for Non-Historic Areas of the Park

#### East of the Historic Boundaries [Area B]

The area [B] outside the east boundary of the historic property (currently marked only by a slight rise in elevation and some trees) retains little integrity. Employee housing and a maintenance facility are currently under construction in this area (August 1992). Suggestions are presented for this area only because it provides part of the setting for the historic landscape (14.25 acres).

Suggestion for Future Design: New construction in this area [B] should be compatible in scale and should not visually intrude upon the adjacent historic landscape. Consider screening structures and objects in the new development as much as possible by the use of vegetation (both trees and shrubs), particularly along the original eastern boundary

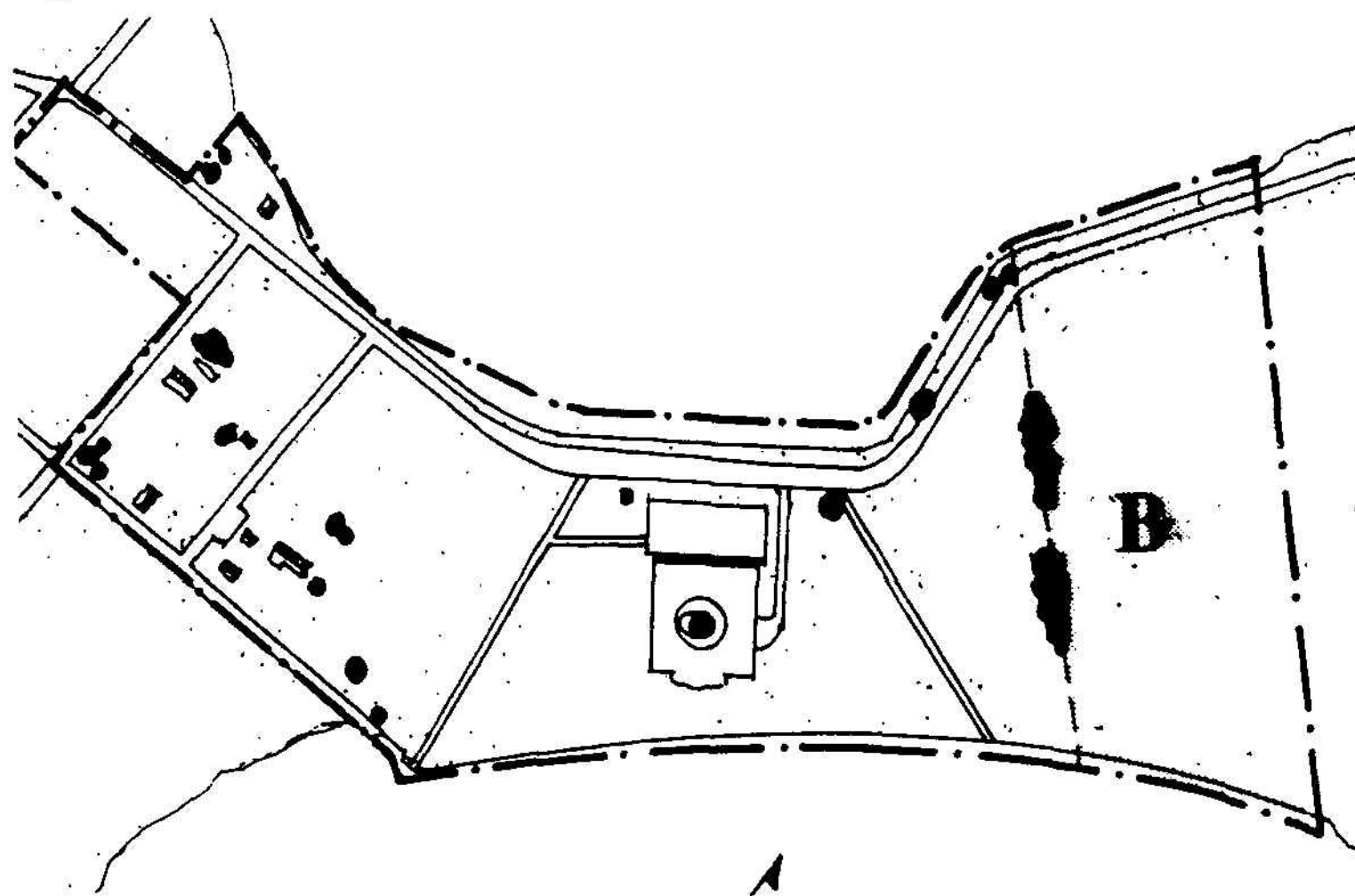


line. Suggestions for trees and shrubs that would be compatible for use in this area are presented in Appendix D (page 146).

Suggestion for Future Design:

The existing mature trees (consisting of a Ginkgo, horse chestnut, ash and mulberry) located around an old house site on this tract could be maintained. Several of these trees are in poor condition and it will not be necessary to replace these trees when they are removed in the future (for safety or other reasons). In the meantime, however, they are useful in providing visual screening of the proposed new development on this tract, and could be replaced for that reason.

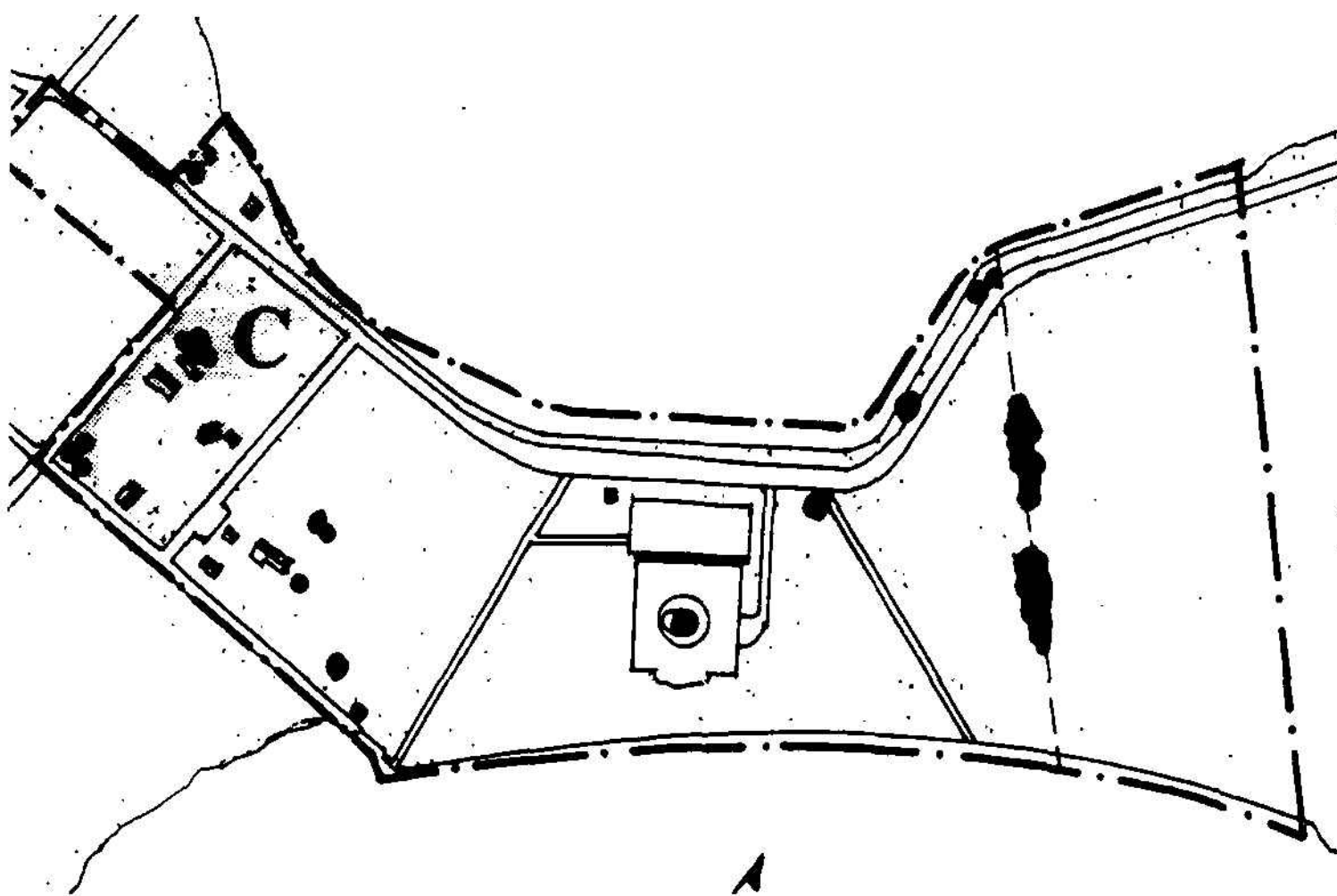
Fig. 47 Area B.



**West of the Historic Boundaries [Areas C]**

The areas owned by the National Park Service to the west of Chapman Avenue currently retain little, if any, integrity of the historic character. They are not considered eligible for the National Register.<sup>19</sup> Suggestions and recommendations are presented for these areas [C] only because they constitute part of the setting for the historic Memorial landscape (14.25 acres).

Fig. 48 Areas C.



<sup>19</sup> Due to the loss of integrity, the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer has declared these structures not eligible for the National Register.

Suggested Action: New construction in these areas should be carefully designed so as not to compete in style, design, materials and scale with the Memorial.

Suggested Action: Any future development along Bayview Avenue on land owned by the National Park Service should be compatible in scale and pattern with the local vernacular architectural traditions of the Island. The *National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form for Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial* recommends that:

...any new structures within its [the Memorial's] proximity either be appropriately screened with vegetation or be so placed and designed as to blend into the low visual wall formed by the town.<sup>20</sup>

Designers for the upcoming Phase II development (Approach Mall and Visitor Center) may want to consider doing quick-study sketches of the Put-in-Bay elevation from Gibraltar Island to confirm that any new development "fits" into this important viewshed.

Suggested Action: The streets on these west tracts historically were lined with mature street trees. It would be appropriate to consider restoring street trees along Bayview Avenue in this area west of the historic grounds [C] as designs are developed for the planned Approach Mall.

Suggested Action: Consider designing the new development on these blocks (such as the proposed visitor center, parking areas, and an approach mall) to encourage visitors to use the historic pedestrian approach along Bayview Avenue to the northwest corner of the lower plaza.

Suggested Action: The character-defining features within the historic property should be considered as historical precedent influencing the design of new development in these non-historic areas. For example,

- tree species that currently exist or historically existed on the original portion of the property could be used as a suggested "palette" for plantings in new development landscape design; and
- the formal nature of the historic property suggests that a compatible formal treatment be applied to the landscaping of new development. The architect of the Memorial grounds, Freedlander, specifically rejected curvilinear sidewalks

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<sup>20</sup> Thomas P. Busch (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service), 1978, Item 8, p. 2.



(proposed by the Greening plan) for the design implemented in 1924-1926. Curvilinear, pastoral-type landscaping would not be compatible with this historically significant Beaux Arts design.

## Summary

These recommendations and suggestions are presented to guide the rehabilitation of the historic 1911-1931 designed landscape of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. This *Cultural Landscape Report* defines the historic character of the historic Memorial property based on thorough documentation. Park managers, working with future planners and designers, can sensitively accommodate contemporary management needs while retaining the historic character of the Memorial.

New construction or removal of existing landscape features should consider the recommendations and findings of this *Report*, which are based on *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, in order to avoid adversely affecting the qualities which contributed to the historic significance of the property. Future actions which may affect the character-defining features of the historic landscape should be reviewed through the Section 106 process.

Landscape features need to be incorporated into the Inventory Condition Assessment Program (ICAP) or another park maintenance scheduling system for cyclic and other maintenance funding. The latest draft of *NPS 28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline* (Release No. 4, Draft 1993) requires that future Cultural Landscape Reports (CLR) include a final section which records treatments actually applied to the landscape, including "...a summary assessment and as-built drawings as appropriate."<sup>21</sup> This "Record of Treatment" section may need to be added to this *Report* at a later date. It is hoped that this *Report* will be viewed as a dynamic document. Administrative and management needs, changing preservation policies, and additional documentation may necessitate revisions or amendments in the future.

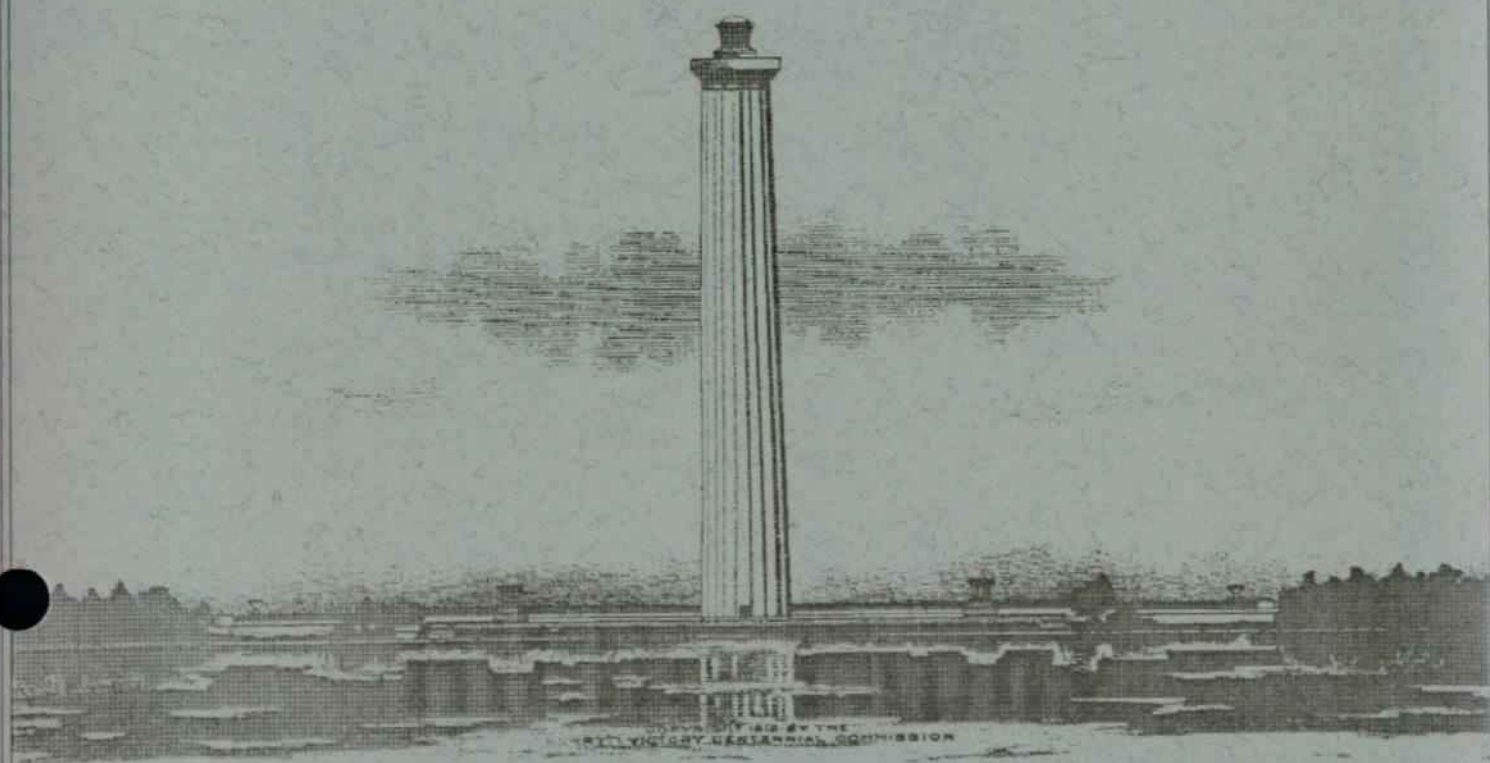
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<sup>21</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, page 101.





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## Photographs

The following historic photographs are archived at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, unless otherwise noted. The reference number composed of three numbers (example: "17-4-23") refers to the file number in the archives of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The "PV-\_\_" refers to the index number of a glass negative. Recent photographs in the text, taken by the author, are archived at the Midwest Region Office, Cultural Resources Division.

File & Negative Numbers	Subject; Date; and Photographer (if known)
PV-761	Aerial panoramic of east end of S. Bass Island; n.d.; Doyle Witgen (photographer ?)
PV-131	View of PEVI at night from north; c.1920 [more likely c.1934+]; O.G. Herbster.
17-4-43/PV-166	Souvenir cover, view of PEVI from northwest; c.1927 [more likely c.1930]; F. H. Haskett.
17-4-29/PV-442	Aerial view of PEVI from north; 1931; 122th Photo Section, 37th Division Aviation, O.N.G.
19-7-32	Aerial view of east grounds from top of Memorial; 1956; Unknown.
13-8-24/GP-5	View of PEVI from north; 1915; O. G. Herbster.
12-2-1/PV-4	Scene looking down County road north of site before clearing; c.1911; O. G. Herbster.
12-2-5/PV-5	View from Chapman Ave. during clearing; c.1912; O. G. Herbster.
12-5-22/KJ-132	Memorial construction; 1914; O. G. Herbster.
12-7-20/PV-55	Memorial construction; 1914; O. G. Herbster.
13-7-30/KJ-391	Construction of plaza; 1915; O. G. Herbster.
13-8-16/KJ-408	View of PEVI from northwest; c.1915 [more likely c.1925]; O. G. Herbster.
13-8-18/PV-95	View of PEVI from northeast; 1915; O. G. Herbster.
16-7-25/PV-265	View of PEVI from west; 1943; O. G. Herbster?
16-7-32/PV-159	View of PEVI from southwest corner, flooding; c.1943 [more likely c.1930]; O. G. Herbster?
17-3-18/PV-720	Aerial view of PEVI from northwest; c.1920 [more likely c.1925]; Hamilton Maxwell, Inc., N.Y.
17-4-8/PV-450	View of PEVI from northwest across Bay; c.1935; Unknown.
17-4-11/PV-451	View of PEVI from northeast; c.1945; Unknown.
17-4-12	View of PEVI from northeast; c.1945; Unknown.

- 17-4-13 Postcard view of PEVI from southeast; c.1945; Unknown.
- 17-4-17 Aerial view of west half of PEVI; c.1945; Unknown.
- 17-4-39/PV-430 View of PEVI from southeast; c.1945; Unknown.
- 17-4-40/PV-441 View of front half of upper plaza; c.1945; Unknown.
- 17-4-41/PV-443 View across lower plaza to east; c.1945 [more likely c.1933]; unknown.
- 17-5-1 Aerial view of PEVI from south; 1959; Tom Root.
- 17-5-2 Aerial view of PEVI from southwest; 1959; Tom Root (photographer ?)
- 17-5-4 Aerial view of PEVI from southeast; c.1959; Tom Root.
- 17-5-8 View of PEVI from north; c.1960; Robert J. Dodge.
- 17-5-10 View of PEVI from southwest; c.1960; Robert J. Dodge.
- 17-5-11 Postcard view of PEVI from northeast; c.1965; R. R. McCreary for Standard Oil.
- 17-5-21 Aerial view of PEVI from north; c.1970 [more likely c.1975+]; NPS.
- 17-6-20 Aerial view of PEVI from overhead; 1974; Unknown.
- 18-1-1/PV-405 Souvenir kiosk on upper plaza; c.1935 [more likely prior to 1935]; Unknown.

### Drawings, Plans, or Maps

**Freedlander, Joseph H., Architect.** 1924. "Drawing 1A, The Terrace." Shows upper and lower plazas in present configuration. Located in PEVI archives.

1924. "Drawing 1B, Reservation Showing Parking [Landscaping] of the Grounds." Located in PEVI archives.

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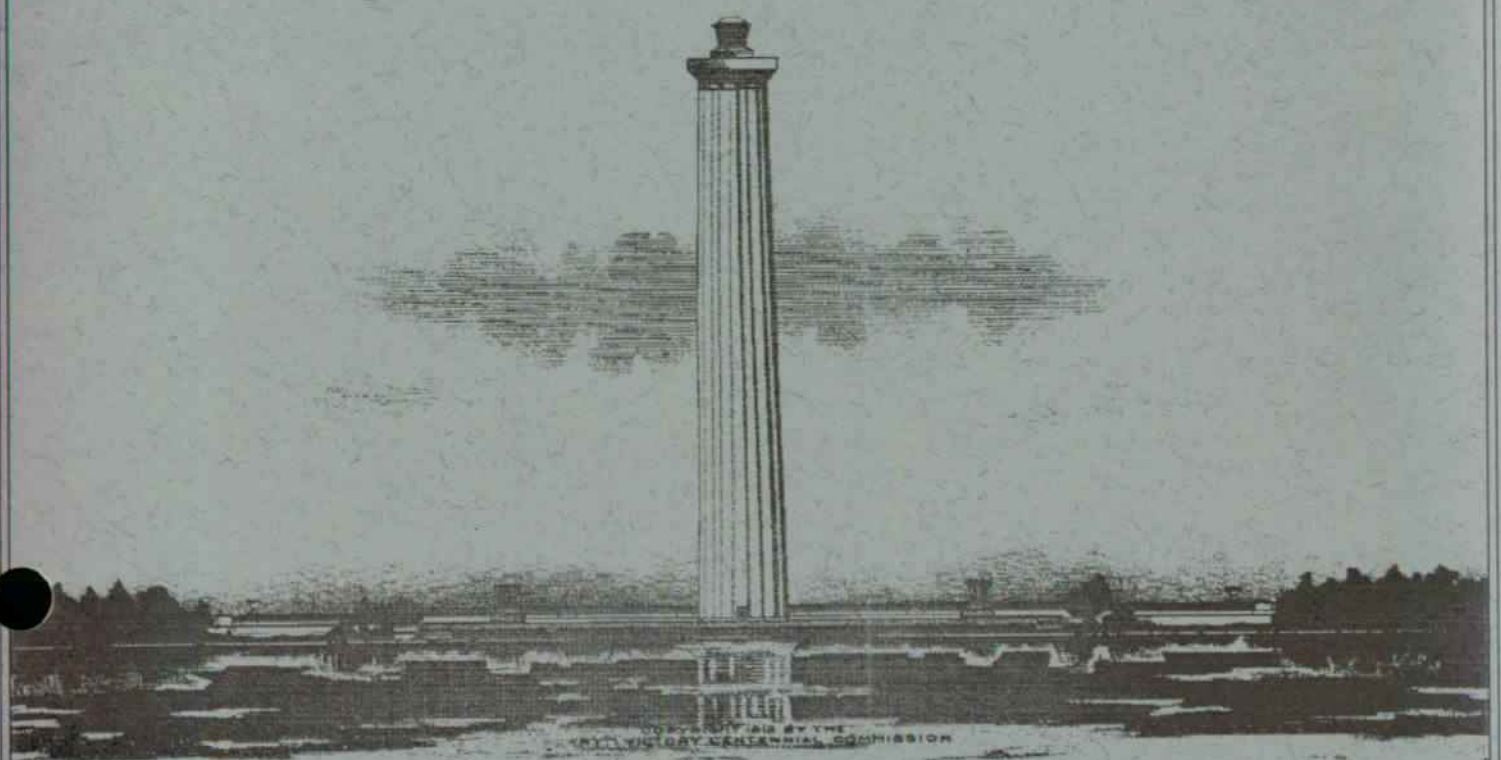
1965. "Drawing No. NM-PV/3014; Resource Management Plan." Differentiates between proposed and existing features. Located in PEVI archives.

1947. "Drawing No. NM-PV/5307, Topographic Base Map." Located in PEVI archives.

1969. "Drawing No. 5:370/80:000, Planting Plan." Shows existing and proposed vegetation on west half of grounds [may be a seasonal student drawing]. Located in PEVI archives.

1950. "Drawing No. NM-PV/2015; Planting Plan [for around superintendent's residence]." Shows existing trees including CLI features [11, 12, 13] at the SE corner of the Superintendent's residence. Located in PEVI archives.

# Appendices





The following is a list of the individual features recorded during the July 1992 inventory of the historic 14.25-acre core of the Perry's Victory property. The features are assessed as contributing to the historic character or noncontributing. These features are also rated for physical condition, based on the following definitions:

- G**     **GOOD** -- The features of the landscape need no intervention; only minor or routine maintenance is needed.
- F**     **FAIR** -- Some deterioration, decline, or damage is noticeable; the feature may require immediate intervention; if intervention is deferred, the feature will require extensive attention in 3-5 years.
- P**     **POOR** -- Deterioration, decline, or damage is serious; the feature is seriously deteriorated or damaged, or presents a hazardous condition; due to the level of deterioration, damage, or danger the feature requires extensive and immediate attention.

#	Type of Feature	Feature	C / N C	C O N D	Brief Description
1	Small-scale	Garbage cans (all)	N	G	Modern NPS trash container.
2	Topography/ Drainage	Catch basin cover (all)	C	F	Appears to be c.1926.
3	Small-scale	NPS sign (all)	N	G	Modern Park entrance sign.
4	Circulation Systems	Sidewalk	C	G	Six-foot wide sidewalk along Hwy. 357. Curb at intersection appears historic.
5	Small-scale	Well	N	G	Capped well head 18" high.
6	Small-scale	Switching box	N	G	Transformer with privet screen.
7	Small-scale	2 Flag poles	N	G	Flagpoles on concrete pads.
8	Circulation Systems	Bayview AVE (SR 357)	C	G	Asphalt paved highway. 28'-7 1/2" wide.
9	Structure	North Seawall	C	G	New wall built on top of 1934 wall (LCS# 09040).
10	Circulation Systems	Chapman Avenue	C	F	Gravel road.
11	Vegetative	London plane tree	C	F	Double stem, 20" and 32" dbh. ( <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> )
12	Vegetative	London plane tree	C	F	Single stem, 26" dbh.

#	Type of Feature	Feature	C / N C	C O N D	Brief Description
13	Vegetative	Silver maple tree	C	F	Large multiple stem. ( <i>Acer saccharinum</i> )
14	Structure	Super. residence	N	F	1 1/2-story frame house with garage.
15	Small-scale	2 Propane tanks	N	F	Tank to supply 14 and 18.
16	Circulation Systems	Parking lot	N	G	Gravel lot, 4-5 cars.
17	Vegetative	Red oak tree	C	G	2" dbh; approx. replaces missing tree. ( <i>Quercus rubra</i> )
18	Structure	Park office	N	F	1-story frame. Integrity diminished.
19	Vegetative	Red oak tree	N	G	2" dbh.
20	Vegetative	Silver maple tree	C	F	28" dbh.
21	Vegetative	Silver maple tree	C	F	28" dbh.
22	Circulation Systems	Sidewalk	N	P	Concrete, 3.5' wide up to NR boundary, then widens.
23	Small-scale	Power pole	N	G	
24	Vegetative	Cottonwood tree	C	G	44" dbh, base encircled by stones. ( <i>Populus deltoides</i> )
25	Vegetative	Silver maple tree	C	F	25" dbh.
26	Circulation Systems	Sidewalk	N	G	6' concrete, connecting to west diagonal walk.
27	Circulation Systems	West diagonal sidewalk	C	G	6' wide concrete.
28	Structure	South seawall	C	G	Concrete (LCS #09041).
29	Small-scale	Control box irrigation system	N	G	Approx. 2' tall.
30	Circulation Systems	Connecting sidewalk	C	G	6' wide concrete walk connects from west diagonal to lower plaza.
31	Structure	Visitor contact station	N	F	1-story metal building.
32	Small-scale	Floodlight (five)	C	G	2.5' square by 7' tall.
33	Vegetative	Austrian pine trees (16)	C	F	Over mature. ( <i>Pinus nigra</i> )



#	Type of Feature	Feature	C / N C	C O N D	Brief Description
34	Structure	Lower plaza	C	G	Paved with 2 x 2' granite pavers (LCS #01211). 15' wide concrete steps, 4 risers, at NW corner of lower plaza, brass railings both sides, modern light.
35	Structure	Upper plaza	C	F	Paved with 2 x 2' granite pavers, with brick pattern near column; 8 planting beds; (LCS #01211). Granite steps extending across full width of plaza; 12 risers; Modern brass (?) hand railings in center. Four granite urns on 7' high engraved piers at corners of upper plaza; Named after ships involved in Battle of Lake Erie.
36	Structure	Column	C	G	352' tall Doric column (LCS# 01211)
37	Small-scale	Benches (nine)	C	G	Granite benches; 6 (6' long) with 2 pedestal feet; 3 (8' long) with 3 pedestal feet.
38	Structure	2 Retaining walls	N	G	Granite retaining walls w/ concrete patio at restrooms; also many utility boxes adjacent.
39	Circulation Systems	Sidewalk	N	G	Concrete sidewalk (8' wide) added c.1970s.
40	Circulation Systems	Sidewalk	N	F	Concrete sidewalk (5 1/2' wide) added c.1950s.
41	Circulation Systems	Parking lot	C	G	Asphalt; paved for 16 vehicles.
42	Vegetative	Norway maple tree	C	F	24" dbh ( <i>Acer platanoides</i> ).
43	Circulation Systems	East diagonal sidewalk	C	G	Concrete walk in east lawn.
44	Vegetative	American elm tree	C	F	32" dbh along north seawall. ( <i>Ulmus americana</i> ).
45	Vegetative	Cottonwood tree	C	F	25" dbh along north seawall.
46	Vegetative	Northern cedar tree	C	G	9" dbh along north seawall. ( <i>Thuja occidentalis</i> ).
47	Vegetative	Honeysuckle shrub	C	G	20' spread; possibly remanent of original shrub ( <i>Lonicera</i> sp.).
48	Small-scale	Street light	N	G	Modern.
49	Vegetative	Lilac shrub	C	F	Large shrub; possibly remanent of original shrub ( <i>Syringa</i> sp.).

#	Type of Feature	Feature	C / N C	C O N D	Brief Description
50	Vegetative	Silver maple tree	C	F	20" dbh along historic east property line.
51	Vegetative	Tree mass (5 trees)	C	G	Green ash (22", 27", 19" dbh, <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> ); Silver Maple (30" dbh); Cottonwood (35" dbh).
52	Vegetative	Tree mass (5 trees)	C	G	Ash and Cottonwood.
53	Vegetative	Ash tree	C	G	
54	Vegetative	Hackberry tree	C	G	38" dbh; pre-existing tree? ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> )
55	Vegetative	Honeysuckle shrub	C	G	Near SE historic boundary; possibly remanent of original planted shrub.
56	Vegetative	Hackberry tree	C	G	20" dbh.
57	Vegetative	Cottonwood tree	C	F	48" dbh.



The integrity of a feature is different from the physical condition of the feature. Integrity is a "composite effect of seven qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association". All seven qualities do not need to be present for eligibility as long as the overall sense of time and place is evident:

A designed landscape need not exist today exactly as it was originally designed or first executed if integrity of location and visual effect have been preserved.<sup>22</sup>

Ratings: H=High Integrity, M=Moderate, L=Low; NC=Noncontributing Feature.

Landscape Features	Composite Integrity	Feature Integrity						
		L o c a t i o n	D e s i g n	S e t t i n g	M a t e r i a l s	W o r k m a n s h i p	F e e l i n g	A s s o c i a t i o n
Topography & Drainage	H							
■ Sloped terraces around plazas	H	M	H	H	M	H	H	H
■ Level topography of the site	M	H	H	H	M	M	H	H
■ Retaining walls near restroom	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Circulation Systems	H							
■ Bayview Avenue	H	H	H	H	L	M	H	H
■ Chapman Avenue	H	H	H	L	H	M	H	H
■ Delaware Avenue	M	H	L	M	M	M	M	L
■ Parking area north of plazas	H	H	H	H	M	M	H	H
■ Sidewalks 22,39,40	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
■ Sidewalks 4, 27, 30, 43	H	H	H	H	M	M	H	H
■ Sidewalk 26	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
■ Sidewalk 28	M	L	H	H	M	M	H	H
Structures & Buildings	H							
■ Upper & lower plazas	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	H
■ Steps between plazas	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
■ Column	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
■ North seawall	H	H	H	H	M	M	H	H
■ South seawall	M	M	H	M	M	M	H	H
■ Visitor contact station	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
■ Superintendent's residence & garage	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
■ Park office	M	H	M	M	H	H	M	M

<sup>22</sup> J. Timothy Keller and Genevieve Keller, *National Register Bulletin 30: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*, p.7. See also Linda Flint McClelland et. al, *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*, pp. 21-24.



Ratings: H = High Integrity, M = Moderate Integrity, L = Low Integrity, N = No Integrity, NC = Noncontributing Feature.

Landscape Features	Composite Integrity	Feature Integrity						
		Location	Design	Setting	Materials	Workmanship	Feeling	Association
<b>Vegetative Features</b> ■ London plane trees ■ Silver maple trees ■ Cottonwood tree ■ Norway maple trees ■ Austrian pine trees ■ American elm tree ■ Northern cedar tree ■ Tree masses at east edge	M H H H M M M M M	H H H L L H H H H	M M M H H L L M M	M M M H H H M H M	H H H H H H H H M	H H H L L M M M H	M M M H H M L H H	
<b>Small-scale Features</b> ■ Trash cans ■ NPS & informational signs ■ Utilities ■ Flag poles ■ Propane tanks ■ Floodlights ■ Benches on upper plaza ■ Urns on upper plaza	H NC NC NC NC NC M H H	- - - - - - H H H	- - - - - - M H H	- - - - - - H H H	- - - - - - L H H	- - - - - - M H H	- - - - - - H H H	
<b>Patterns of Spatial Organization</b> ■ Open lawn areas to each side of plazas ■ Enclosing masses of trees at west & east boundaries ■ View to battle site from column ■ View of column from north ■ Distant views of column from water ■ Formality of the layout and features ■ Pattern of horizontal & vertical lines	M  H  M  M  H H  M  M	  H  H  H  M  H	  H  H  M  H  H	  M  L  M  M  M  M	  L  M  H  H  M  M	  H  M  M  H  M  H	  H  H  M  H  H  H	
<b>Character of Adjoining Properties</b>	L							



[The following text was included in the *Official Souvenir Program of the Perry's Victory Centennial, 1813-1913*, by the Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners, 1913 (pp. 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, and 47). The text (with some omissions as noted) describes -- in Freedlander's own words -- his design concept or philosophic intent for the 1912 design for the 14.25-acre site.]

THE PERRY MEMORIAL.  
By JOSEPH HENRY FREEDLANDER,

The scheme of The Perry Memorial had its inception in a combination of remarkable historical events. It is a striking fact that England and America, two countries which have been at peace for a period of a hundred years, should purpose to definitely seal their friendship by means of a general treaty, the spirit of which shall insure to the English speaking races this final triumph of civilization. It has therefore seemed most fitting to embody in a Memorial commemoration of Perry's victory at the battle of Lake Erie an expression of the treaty of arbitration about to be entered into between the two nations -- an epoch-making event in the history of two great peoples of vast and significant moment.

Exactly one hundred years after the last war it is proposed to enter into an arbitration treaty designed to ensure everlasting peace.

It was with this thought pregnant with good-will to mankind in mind that the Perry Memorial was conceived. Three elements in the composition immediately suggested themselves: the shaft, the Museum, and a statue flanked by a Colonnade, typifying peace by arbitration.

The composition was born in an instant -- the shaft took the form of a great Doric column, with the Museum on the left and the Colonnade on the right. All were placed on a broad plaza elevated only slightly above the ground so that the entire Memorial would appear to rise from the sea and be further enhanced by its reflections in the rippling waters.

The Column stands alone so that it may be seen over the water from all points of the compass and by its very height dominate the surrounding country. The Museum and Colonnade are distant from it some three hundred feet and thus will not obscure its perspective at any point. On the contrary its setting as the central motive in the composition will ensure a degree of dignity impossible to obtain were the other buildings placed in close proximity. The Museum and Colonnade in turn are placed on terraces at a slightly higher elevation than the main platform so that they may give grace and variety to the vista and their architectural setting be assured.

In view of the location of the site in so great an expanse of water and the necessarily isolated character which these conditions imply, the Doric order treated without any ornament of any kind seemed best adapted to convey the impression of grandeur and simplicity which the Memorial is intended to suggest. The plaza covers almost the entire site in length, and in width extends from the waters of Lake Erie to those of Put-in-Bay. Here it is reached by a broad flight of steps forming the main approach. The shore drive [Bayview Avenue] runs through it, thus making it accessible to visitors both by land and by sea. A landing stage for small boats is provided at the bottom of the flight of steps. Besides insuring an architectural base for the general composition the plaza is intended to serve for exercises and ceremonies requiring the accommodation of large assemblages. Its extreme length is seven hundred and fifty feet and its width on the main central axis is four hundred and fifty-eight feet. It is twelve feet above mean high water while the terraces immediately surrounding the Museum and the Colonnade are elevated three feet or more or fifteen feet above mean high water. The level of the roadway is elevated six feet above the water, a broad flight of steps leading down to it and in turn another flight continues to the water's edge.

It is intended to plant such portions of the site not covered by the plaza with shrubs and to enclose the Memorial in a setting of landscape gardening, by means of paths, lawns, borders and planting. The trees on the site are being carefully preserved so that their foliage may not only afford shade but enhance the general color scheme as well.



The stone selected for the entire Memorial is a white granite, extremely beautiful in texture and color and of a sufficiently delicate pink cast to temper it and to counteract the natural tendency of pure white stones to take on a bluish cast under the sky. Its geological composition is as nearly perfect as can be obtained and it was selected after exhaustive mechanical tests on account of its hardness and consequent great durability, the latter quality being naturally an essential in the choice of material for a monument destined to last through the ages. In order to give it as brilliant a texture as possible it is tooled or channelled [sic] with fine vertical lines. This treatment has the same effect on granite as the cutting of facets on precious stones and tends to produce a sparkle, brilliancy and play of light and shade extremely pleasing to the eye.

The column, forming the central motive of the Memorial is surmounted by a massive bronze tripod, the bowl of which is illuminated by means of a cluster of a hundred concealed incandescent lights.

...[description of foundation, height, and rotunda]...

From the upper [viewing] platform a door leads to the outside parapet, concealed in the cap of the column. From this parapet forming a promenade three hundred feet above the terrace level a magnificent view of the surrounding country is obtained. The panoramic scene presented by the waters of the Lake is imposing and wonderfully beautiful at all times of the day, while at night the impression conveyed by the intense quiet and the twinkling of innumerable lights is fairy-like and reminiscent of the star-lit lagoons of the Adriatic....

...[description of the proposed Museum]...

The Colonnade forming a pendant to the Museum at the right of the Column will enclose on three sides of a statue typifying "Peace by Arbitration." The height of the columns of the Colonnade will be the same as those of the Museum, thus preserving a symmetrical sky-line. The open space enclosed within the Colonnade will be laid out in the manner of a formal garden, bisected by a pathway terminating at either end in a fountain built in the walls. From the garden level a broad flight of steps leads to the terrace [plaza]. In the center of the flight and on the main axis of the structure the statue and pedestal will be placed.

...[description of the statue]....

A detail requiring careful study and of much interest in the design of the Memorial has been the provision made for the correction of the perspective by means of asymmetric curves. The long flight of steps [along the north or front of plaza] for instance would appear to sag in the center if they were made straight or horizontal. Therefore they are built with a convex curve, that is to say they are some four inches higher at the center than at the ends. Thus in execution they will appear perfectly level. In the same manner the terrace [plaza] surrounding the shaft is raised in the center and lower at the ends -- otherwise the Column would appear to depress it and it would produce the effect of resting in a concave dish. Similarly every vertical or horizontal surface of the entire group has been corrected by means of carefully calculated curvatures.

To tie together the three elements of the composition there will be laid out on the main terraces [lawn areas?] and in the spaces between the Column and the flanking buildings in a scheme of landscape gardening whose main feature will consist of a green-sward one hundred and fifty feet long and seventy-five feet wide. At either side two granite walks will be built leading from the Museum and Colonnade terraces [plazas] to the plaza surrounding the Column. These in turn will be bordered with shrubs, bay-trees, flower beds, and other accessories which go to makeup a garden wherein the public may find shelter and repose and a restful lounging place. Four large vases at the center terrace [plaza] and smaller ones at the ends will serve to embellish the general layout and at either end of the steps leading from the water's edge a bronze standard bearing the national flag will be erected. Furthermore in deference to the naval character of the Memorial it is proposed to use as attributes in the treatment of the grounds bronze cannon, mortars and anchors presented by the Navy Department.

This is in brief a description of the salient features of the Memorial. Erected to commemorate the valor and courage of a great commander and an epoch-making event in the history of the United States -- it shall have doubly fulfilled its mission if, down through the ages it shall stand -- the first milestone on the high road of everlasting peace.

[signed] J. H. Freedlander



The following suggestions for substitution for various historic (extant or missing) vegetative features are based on recommendations from standardly accepted horticultural works (referenced in the bibliography) and on conversations with regional nursery sources. Sources should be re-consulted before a final choice is made.

#### Hedging on the Upper Plaza

Historic photographs show a moderately low (2-3 feet in height), informally pruned hedge in the planter beds on the upper plaza in c.1945.<sup>23</sup> Written documentation verifies that the hedging was a species or variety of barberry (*Berberis* sp.). According to Dirr, the following species were being used by the mid-1920s:

- *Berberis thunbergii* -- Japanese barberry, introduced 1656;
- *Berberis thunbergii* var. *atropurpurea* -- crimson barberry, distributed in 1926;
- *Berberis thunbergii* 'Minor' -- 'Minor' barberry, introduced after 1892;
- *Berberis x mentorensis* -- mentor barberry, introduced in 1924; and
- *Berberis koreana* -- Korean barberry, introduced in 1905.

The green-leaved *Berberis thunbergii*, Japanese barberry, is most likely the species used in the planter beds on the upper plaza. However, its natural form matures at 3-6', requiring fairly intensive pruning to maintain a lower profile. A substitute species is recommended to reduce maintenance costs.

#### Recommended:

- Substitution with a hardy, green-colored, dwarf species of barberry such as *B. thunbergii* 'Kobold' is recommended.
- Also acceptable as substitutes are: *Berberis x mentorensis* -- Mentor barberry (would require frequent pruning); *Berberis thunbergii* 'Sparkle' -- 'Sparkle' barberry (green-colored; 3-5'); or *Berberis thunbergii* var. *atropurpurea* -- 'Crimson Pygmy' barberry.

#### Hedging Around the Perimeters of the Original Property

Historic photographs and written sources also document this hedge as barberry, growing in a mounded shape in the mid-1930s, but as a more upright and "scraggly" hedge with few leaves on the lower portion of the shrubs (possibly as a result of poor pruning) in the mid-1940s. The use of barberry as a hedging material in this location was

<sup>23</sup> This date is questionable--it may be an earlier photograph.

discussed with regional nursery experts. The consensus is that barberry is a very hardy plant and can withstand the harsh climatic extremes of the site. However, barberries are susceptible to a fungal *Phytophthora* root rot if the root system stands in water or saturated soil for 24 hours or longer. Since standing water or saturated soil is a possibility on the site, barberry is not the first choice for the hedging. Use of a substitute species is recommended.

Recommended:

■ Substitute another species for barberry. Two different species are recommended as choices for substitution: bayberry and privet. Both barberry and privet were specified by Freedlander in his plans or contracts.

- *Myrica pennsylvanica* -- Northern bayberry, an extremely hardy (USDA Zone 2), light green foliage species that withstands heavy pruning and has no serious insect or disease problems, introduced in 1725;
- *Ligustrum obtusifolium regelianum* -- regal privet, a green-colored, rounded, and very hardy species (Zone 3) requiring occasional pruning, of modern introduction; or
- *Ligustrum vulgare* 'Lodense' -- 'Lodense' privet, a lower growing species that may be planted dormant as a bare-root stock which would lower installation costs, of recent introduction. May not tolerate wet conditions.

The disadvantage of these recommended substitutions is a slightly different visual appearance in texture and color from barberry.

If the drainage problems on the site appear to be solved for the long term, then barberry could be replanted. However, the most likely historic species, *Berberis thunbergii*, Japanese barberry, is not recommended because its growth habit would require extensive pruning. Other modern barberries that are suggested for substitution if the drainage problems and high water table of the site are eventually corrected include:

- *Berberis x mentorensis* -- mentor barberry (would require frequent pruning);
- *Berberis thunbergii* 'Sparkle' -- 'Sparkle' barberry (green-colored; 3-5'); or
- *Berberis thunbergii* var. *atropurpurea* 'Crimson Pygmy' -- crimson pygmy barberry (red-colored). This variety probably was not available during the period of significance. Oral interviews might confirm whether the barberry planted was a red or green colored variety.

Pines Around the Plazas
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The Austrian pines (*Pinus nigra*) on the sloped terraces around the plazas is recommended to be replaced by a substitute species: *Pinus heldrichi leucodermis*, Bosnian pine. This pine has a dark-green color and a slow growth



rate, is resistant to tip blight and is hardy in this area. It is somewhat difficult to locate in quantities.<sup>24</sup>

Tree and Shrub Masses Located at the East and West Boundaries of the Historic 14.25-acre Site

The following trees and shrubs are specified by Freedlander in his 1914 landscaping specifications.<sup>25</sup> Whether these were actually planted is not fully documented. However, many of the species mentioned currently exist on the property and are classified as contributing features. This list is suggested for use in guiding selection for planting at the east and west boundaries. These plants would also be appropriate for planting non-historic parts of the Park.

Deciduous shrubs:

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ■ Spireas -- <i>Spiraea</i> sp. | ■ <i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> |
| ■ <i>Weigela</i> sp.            | ■ <i>Hibiscus</i> sp.          |
| ■ <i>Forsythia</i> sp.          | ■ <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>  |
| ■ <i>Deutzia</i> sp.            |                                |

These shrubs are usually rounded and full-blown shaped shrubs, growing to 6-15' in height. Modern substitutions may be considered to select for more hardiness or for somewhat reduced heights and their appropriateness under modern management constraints. A honeysuckle and two lilac shrubs currently exist along the original east boundary.

Deciduous trees:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ■ maples [Norway and silver were found on site]  | ■ birch ( <i>Betula</i> sp.)  |
| ■ elms ( <i>Ulmus</i> sp.)   | ■ white-flowering dogwood   |
| ■ lindens ( <i>Tilia</i> sp.)  | ■ <i>Prunus triloba</i>   |
| ■ catalpas ( <i>Catalpa speciosa</i> )   | ■ <i>Cornus rubra</i> [probably <i>C. florida</i> var. <i>rubra</i> ] |
| ■ <i>Kerrigenus robenia</i> [unknown]  | ■ beech ( <i>Fagus</i> sp.)   |
| ■ <i>Ceres japonica</i> [possibly <i>Cercis</i> sp. or <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> ] | ■ Lombardy poplars (not recommended)                                  |
| ■ oriental planes ( <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i> )                                       | ■ <i>Aralia spinosa</i>   |

<sup>24</sup> During investigation of appropriate species, a nursery expert mentioned that one possible source for landscape size Bosnian pines was Iseli Nursery near Portland, Oregon (1-800-777-6202). Other potential sources need to be located.

<sup>25</sup> The 1914 contract titled "...For Construction of the Plaza and Landscaping of the Grounds..." is included as "Appendix X" in *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*, by Alfred Mongin, National Park Service, 1961.

- oaks (*Quercus* sp.)

Of these trees, only silver maple, Norway maple, American elm, and London plane trees were found extant on the site. There is no evidence to suggest that the flowering trees were planted.

Evergreens:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ■ native cedars ( <i>Thuja</i> sp.)  | ■ <i>Retinospora squarrose</i>          |
| ■ <i>Retinospora plumosa aurea</i><br>[unknown]  | [unknown]                               |
| ■ grafter <i>Pungens</i> [unknown;<br>perhaps a <i>Picea pungens</i><br>trained as a standard] | ■ <i>Abies concolor</i>                 |
|  | ■ a "choice collection" of <i>Taxus</i> |

The only evergreen species still present on the site is a cedar at the northeast corner of the historic property and the Austrian pines around the plazas. Based on historic photographs and written records, there were no other evergreens planted on the site.

Experts Consulted
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Several horticultural experts from the northern Ohio region were consulted in December 1992 and January 1993 before compiling this listing. These included:

- Ken Cochran, Director, Secrest Arboretum, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio;
- Keith Manbeck, Manbeck Nurseries, New Knoxville, Ohio (419-753-2488);
- Dave Richards, Lake County Nursery, Perry, Ohio (216-259-5571);
- Bill Hendricks, Klynn Nursery, near Perry, Ohio (216-259-3811);
- Kathy Pokrandt, Urban Forester with Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, Ohio; and
- Mike Buhrow, Musser Forest Nursery, Indiana, Pennsylvania (412-465-5685).



Historic documents were reviewed to determine when existing landscape features on the 14.25-acre historic Memorial grounds were installed or constructed. In particular, historic photographs and Perry's Victory Memorial Commission records were reviewed by the authors. These references were noted and organized in chronological order by landscape feature. The numbered features "[]" correspond to the features related in Appendix A and on the site plan, "Existing Conditions Analysis Map," included as Appendix F. The unnumbered features refer to features either located outside the historic 14.25-acre portion of the Memorial, features unnumbered on the site plan, or historic features that are no longer extant. Organization of references to these features in this manner helped the authors to compile historic base maps for determining period(s) of significance for this historic designed landscape.

#### Landscape Features:

[1] Trash Can (all)

No references; 1960s-80s styles.

[2] Catch Basins (all)

1926--May 24 Commission Report: "...catch basins had been or were being provided to carry off excess water beneath the soil into the Lake." [CR25, p.51; SB, p.20]<sup>26</sup>

[3] NPS Signs (all)

No references; modern or since 1936.

[4] Sidewalk

1925?--1924 contract with Wadley & Smith included "Concrete walks, one along the road on the north side..." [CR6] The "...sidewalk paralleling the roadway will be six feet (6') in width." [CR24, n.d.]  
1931--sidewalk shows [17-4-29].

Rubin House (currently used as housing for Chief of Interpretation)

No references.

Boathouse behind Rubin House

1931--dock shows in photo [17-4-29].

1965--plan shows dock [NV-PV/3014].

1970s--boathouse" torn down before seawall project" [TB].

Area Along North Seawall Between Toledo AVE and Chapman AVE

Functioned as a "private beach" for residents of the blocks between Toledo and Chapman AVE [TB]

NPS "Maintenance Shop"

Was a woodshed [TB]

ca.1959--see photo [17-5-4].

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<sup>26</sup> The symbols used for references is a shorthand system referring to sources listed at the end of this appendix.

[5] Well

No references.

[6] Switching Box

No references.

[7] Two Flag Poles

1912--Freedlander's original design shows 1 flagpole centered at N edge of lower terrace, but no later documents show this feature as installed.

1931--no flag pole shown anywhere, but detail not good [17-4-29].

1941--Proposal to erect a flagpole on "Mall west of monument" for displaying American flag on "80' pole 8'-0" base on paved platform 20' x 20'. Bids taken in 9/1937 but rejected due to excessive cost. [CR11]

1942--"Flagpole is erected." [SB] "...congratulate you...on our new flag and flagpole." Huntington to Schnoor, 6/1/1942 [CR12]; "...photograph showing the new location of the flagpole and flag. ...It must appear to great advantage when approaching the Memorial by water, and it is conspicuous to all who approach the Column by the road from either direction. Johannsen would be delighted to see it where he once put the old flag of stone lying flat on the ground." H to S on 7/23 1942 [CR13]=see photo [17-4-29] which shows stones or a flower bed in the shape of a flag between parking lot and lower plaza.

ca.1945--one flagpole centered at N end of lower plaza [17-4-11] and [17-4-12].

1947--one flagpole centered at N end of lower plaza [plan NM-PV/5307].

1965--no flagpole shown in current position [plan NV-PV/3014].

ca.1959--one pole in current position showing in photo [17-5-4].

1969--plan shows only one flagpole in current spot [plan 5:370/80:000].

ca.1970--shows two flagpoles but date is probably wrong [17-5-21].

1974--one pole only [17-6-20].

1975--"Second flagpole is erected." [SB]

1976--construction document shows two flagpoles [plan 370/41.009A].

[8] Bayview Avenue/State Road 357

ca. 1911--unpaved road lined with deciduous trees in a row on S side and with occasional sycamore trees along N (bay) side. Shrubs or vineyards, and dock showing to W (off property) [12-2-1].

1925--"The roadway fronting the plaza on the bayside was paved in 1925." [M, p.285]

1947--Road surface indicated as "Macadam" on survey [NM-PV/5307]. Macadam is described as a surface or pavement consisting of layers of crushed stone.

Parking Lot in Front of Memorial

1926--Commissioner's Annual Report shows picture where parking lot does not appear to be paved [CR23, p.11].

1959--parking as appears today [17-5-2].

Space between Parking Lot and Lower Plaza

1925--In Annual Mtg. Report of Commission, noted that appropriation "...was not sufficient to provide...[for] granite steps leading from the lower plaza to the street level." [CR8, p.22; see also CR22]. Photo shows no steps? but perhaps worn path at NW corner [13-8-16].

1926--Commissioner's Annual Report shows picture with steps appearing to be of wood showing at NW corner. Also possibly another set of wooden? steps located in the middle of this space [CR23, p.11] or what appears to be flower bed or stones? in shape of flag in photo [13-8-16] which shows clearly in 1931 photo [17-4-29].

1941--Proposal for construction of granite steps (Approximately four steps 180 ft. long, approx. 6" rise,



12" tread): "The transition between the elevation of the lower plaza and the driveway elevation is now a sod bank and public access is provided by temporary wooden steps. The present steps are inadequate to serve the needs and the granite steps contemplated in the original design should be installed to achieve the minimum dignity of approach warranted by the monument. The work was omitted from the original construction program because of lack of funds." [CR10]

[9] North Seawall

1915--No seawall in photo [13-8-24].

1916--"The first retaining wall on the bay side (north front) of the reservation was constructed during the summer and fall of 1916." [M, p.283]

ca.1920--Photo shows seawall [17-3-18].

1931--seawall shows in photo [17-4-29].

1934-35--"This was completely reconstructed during 1934-1935 by contractor Alfred Schnoor." [M, p.283]

1976--NPS plan appears to show location of new seawall with removal of some docks behind Gerry's house. One note indicates was to be built as "NEW CONC. TOP ON EXISTING SEAWALL." [plan 370/41.009A].

1977--"Rehabilitation of the north and south seawalls;..." [SBC]

1985--reconstructed, new height added on top of old [TB].

[10] Chapman Avenue and Western Historic Edge of Property

Chapman Avenue shown as gravel on all early photographs.

ca.1915--very few trees at SW corner; row of trees along road by bathhouse [panoramic composite PIB-AV, PV-154]

1915--See trees along edge [13-8-18].

1931--probably trees along Chapman AVE and scattered in lawn west of diagonal walk [17-4-29].

ca.1959--about 5 trees along Chapman AVE [17-5-4].

1965--plan shows one silver maple at NW corner of garage, 3 mock orange shrubs along Chapman AVE, one Austrian pine between garage and super's house, one silver maple west of headquarters, one forsythia shrub east of headquarters, one silver maple SE of headquarters along road to beach, one silver maple at SE corner of superintendent's house, and two sycamores to NE of superintendent's house [NV-PV/3014].

1970s?--had at least two big hardwood trees along Chapman AVE [TB]

1974--shows one tree along Chapman at edge of photo [17-6-20].

[11] London Plane Tree

ca.1915--shows in photo [composite panoramic PIB-AV, PV-154].

1931--shows in photo [17-4-29].

1965--shows on plan [NV-PV/3014].

1974--shows boardwalks near these trees [17-6-20].

[12] London Plane Tree

Same as [11] above.

[13] Silver Maple Tree

ca.1915--shows in photo [composite panoramic PIB-AV, PV-154].

1931--shows in photo [17-4-29].

[14] Superintendent's Residence and Garage

ca.1951--"...planting of five dogwoods north of the superintendent's residence, but they did not survive even a year....The trees were replanted but did not last. In 1969 crab apples replaced the dogwoods, but

they met the same fate and did not survive the extensive flooding of the 1970s." [SB, p.25]

1951--"Building of present Superintendent's residence and landscaping of the headquarters area." [SB]

[15] Two Propane Tanks

No references.

[16] Parking Lot

No references.

[17] Red Oak Tree

No references. Very recently planted.

[18] Park Administrative Office

1929--"The frame utility building, now housing the Office of the Superintendent,...erected...in 1929...."  
[M, p.285]

????--Had a large maple at NW corner [TB]

ca.1959--pines S of residence [17-5-4].

1965--plan shows one pine between garage and superintendent's house [plan NV-PV/3014].

1988--"Office added to headquarters building." [SB]

1989-90--Austrian pine on E side taken down [TB]. "Austrian pines transplanted." [SB] 40 planted - 11 moved in 1934 = 29 left; 3 went around fence and transformers, 3 went near utility building, and 5 went to Hotel Victory grounds. [CR]

[19] Red Oak Tree

No references. Very recently planted.

[20] Silver Maple Tree

ca.1959--see photo [17-5-4].

1965--shows in plan [NV-PV/3014].

[21] Silver Maple Tree

Same as [20].

[22] Concrete Sidewalk

ca.1959--walk shows with trees along both sides of road to beach [17-5-4].

1974--some trees still showing [17-6-20].

Village Bathing Beach

ca.1915--shows in photo [composite panoramic PIB-AV, PV-154]

1921--mentioned in 1921 [?].

1931--bathhouse and tall water slide shows in photo [17-4-29].

ca.1945--probably late-1930s lower bathhouse but no water slide [17-4-17].

1947--bathhouse shown on survey [plan NM-PV/5307].

ca.1959--no bathhouse [17-5-4].

1965--beach designated as "Village Beach" on plan [plan NV-PV/3014].

Wood Fence

No references. Modern construction.



[23] Power Pole

No references.

Transformer

1947--only plan that shows transformer in NW of where diagonal walk meets seawall. No vegetative screening [plan NM-PV/5307].

[24] Cottonwood Tree

1931--shows in photo [17-4-29].

ca.1959--shows in photo [17-5-4].

1965--shown on plan [plan NV-PV/3014].

1974--shows in photo [17-6-20].

[25] Silver Maple Tree

ca.1945--photo shows tree in similar location at SE end of 23 [17-4-39].

ca.1959--shows in photo [17-5-4] and [17-5-8].

1965--shown on plan along w/2 other silver maples in this area [plan NV = PV/3014].

1974--shows in photo [17-6-20].

[26] Connecting Sidewalk at SW corner

ca.1959--no walk [17-5-4].

1965--no walk indicated as existing nor proposed on plan [NV-PV/3014].

ca.1970--walk shows clearly and looks like newly poured concrete but photo may be 1975 or later [17-5-21].

Mid-1970s--wooden boardwalk added by NPS [TB].

1974--boardwalk or walk has been removed [17-6-20].

1978?--Concrete walk done as part of seawall project [TB].

[27] West Diagonal Sidewalk

ca.1920--photo showing no walk [17-3-18].

1924--contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Concrete walks,...one crossing the site on the west side of the memorial and one on the east side." [CR6] Walks to be "7' wide." [CR24,n.d.]

1925--December 1, Commissioner's Annual Meeting appears to state that work on "concrete walks in front of and through the grounds" was complete. Walks "...were laid to a depth of 11 inches..." [CR22, p.10]

Walk on west side showing in photo [13-8-16].

1931--shows clearly in photo [17-4-29].

ca.1970--walk shows clearly and looks like newly poured concrete but does not extend completely to seawall--stops at walk [26]. but photo may be 1975 or later [17-5-21].

1974--walk shown completely, but boardwalk or walk [26] connecting to bathing beach has been removed [17-6-20].

[28] South Seawall

1916--"Construction of the southern wall." [SB] See 1925 below mentioning this prior seawall.

1925--the bid letter specifying "retaining wall 992 ft. in length along the south side of the reservation."

Was to be a "wall and walkway" structure per specs. [CR3, ca. Aug. 1924]; Commission Annual Mtg Report (dated 9/1/1925) notes this contract was completed by Aug. 21, 1925. "The wall is 9 feet wide and 993 feet long, going to a depth of 5 feet below the water line and rising to a height of 4 feet above. It...is built over the wall formerly constructed [my emphasis] ." [CR8 and CR22]; Picture in the 1926 Annual Report [CR23, p.2]. 1926 Annual Report shows picture of "old wall and condition of grounds before

landscaping." [CR23, p.5]

1961--"The lake side (south) retaining wall was constructed in 1925 by contractor John A. Feick, and has been the subject of no major reconstruction [1961]." [M, p.284].

1977--"Rehabilitation of the north and south seawalls;..." [SB]

[29] Control Box for Irrigation System

1984-85-- "...irrigation system installed." [SB]

[30] Connecting Sidewalk and Steps at W side of Lower Terrace

1924--August 11, Greening sends estimate to WPH which includes drainage, fertilizing, gravel walks, cement sidewalks, seawall, "granite steps leading from side of terrace to grade," grass seed, leveling, nursery stock (but not filling swamp) [CR17].

1925--December 1, Commissioner's Annual Meeting appears to state that work on "concrete walks in front of and through the grounds" was complete. Walks "...were laid to a depth of 11 inches..." [CR22, p.10]. See photo [13-8-16]. December 1, Commissioner's Annual Report "A flight of ten or twelve granite steps about ten feet wide, should also be built on the West side of the lower plaza at a point near the North front, from the level of the concrete walks in the grounds to the level of the plaza. Experience has shown that more than 50 per cent of public patronage comes from this point, and it would be an invitation to greater patronage to have these steps built. At the present time the Commission has resorted to the expedient of temporary wooden steps to accommodate the public and protect the lawn on the elevation around the plaza foundations from being trodden at this point..." [CR22, p.11]; Cost of \$210.64 [CR22, p.12].

1926--Commissioner's Annual Report shows picture with this sidewalk in, but steps are outside picture frame [CR23, p.12].

prior to 1931?--steps appear to be wooden [16-7-32].

1931--walk shows clearly in photo [17-4-29].

1943--steps show as wooden [16-7-25].

1959--walk shows clearly in photo [17-5-1].

ca.1960--steps are wood [17-5-10].

Tree at intersection of walk #27 and walk #30

1926--Commissioner's Annual Report shows picture of small (1-2" dbh) tree in this spot [CR23, p.12].

1931--may show in photo [17-4-29].

1943--shows in photo [16-7-25].

ca.1959--shows in photo [17-5-4] and 1959 [17-5-1] and 17-5-2].

1965--shown as Norway maple on plan [NV-PV/3014].

1969--shown on plan [5:370/80:000].

ca.1970--does not show [17-5-21].

1974--tree shows [17-6-20]. No longer standing, but does remember this tree [TB].

Tree at NW corner of diagonal walk

1947--no tree shown on survey at this nor at other three corners [NM-PV/5307, 17-5-1].

1965--shown as Norway maple on plan [NV-PV/3014]. Also shows Norway maples at other 3 corners of diagonal walks.

1974--tree appears in photo [17-6-20].

[31] Visitor Contact Station

1959--does not appear [17-5-1].

1965--not shown nor proposed on plan [NV-PV/3014].

1969--not shown on drawing [5:370/80:000].



ca.1970--appears with shrubs thickly grown around it, but date probably wrong [17-5-21].

1974--appears with newly planted shrubs [17-6-20].

[32] Floodlights (all)

1928--"Installation of electric lighting of the Memorial plazas and grounds." [SB]

1931--one WSW of terraces shows indistinctly [17-4-29].

1959--old lights still in place [17-5-1].

1965--5 sets of floodlights shown and proposed to be replaced shown on plan [NV-PV/3014]. Also shows forsythia shrubs screening floodlights.

1969--plan shows lights with proposed privet screening [5:370/80:000].

1974--old lights still in place [17-6-20].

Replaced ??

[33] Austrian Pines (All)

1915--pines not appearing in photo [13-8-18] and [13-8-24].

1924--letter to Smythe (Wadley & Smythe) on Oct. 16, 1924 "The Committee would very much like to have the four groups of Austrian Pines included if this could be done we would be satisfied to have the walk crossing the park on the east of the Memorial narrowed to 6ft." [CR7] Oct. 19, letter from Commission member? to Greening stating that "...the four groups of pines on the corners of the terraces [have been omitted from W&S contract]..." but "...with the promise however that the planting of the pines be included in the end providing the contract or [sic] can afford to do so." [CR19]

1925--Spring: "40 Large Clipped Austrian Pines" planted by W&S [CR9]

1926--May Report: "...the evergreen planting around the terraces was in good condition;..." [CR25, p.51]. Commissioner's Annual Report shows picture of a row of pines (5 total in picture) about 4-6 feet tall, spaced 6-10 feet apart along west edge of lower plaza [CR23, p.11]. Also [CR23, p. 12] shown are the pines spaced along the western edge of upper terrace. These appear to be of the same size and spacing, but with two (or three?) rows of 5-6 pines at NW corner of upper plaza, then a gap (for lights), then a cluster of pines at SW corner of upper terrace [CR23, p.12]. Photo showing 7 pines along sides of lower plaza, 11-13 planted at NW corner of upper plaza and 2-3? at SW corner of upper plaza; matching number on west side would lead to a total of 40-46 pines [13-8-16].

ca.1927--photo for "Official Souvenir" shows 6 pines along W edge of lower plaza, 11-12 at NW corner of upper plaza and 2 at SW corner [17-3-24].

1931--all pines still showing from air [17-4-29].

1934--"Austrian pines transplanted." [SB] 40 planted - 11 moved in 1934 = 29 left; 3 went around fence and transformers, 3 went near utility building, and 5 went to grounds of former Hotel Victory on SW side of island [CR].

1992--16 Austrian pines remaining; inventoried in Cultural Landscapes Inventory field test, 7/93.

Sloped Terraces

1915--July, only terrace embankment around lower plaza completed [13-8-18] and [13-8-24].

ca. 1915--terraces covered with sod and pines planted. [13-8-16]

?1924?--"These terraces [around the base of Memorial] will be brought to a true grade and over them will be spread a layer of four inches (4") of top soil, fertilized, and the entire surface sodded with a good quality of thick turf. The sod will be cut short and a layer of top soil well fertilized will be spread over it; then same will be seeded with the same quality of seed that will be used in the parking, and well tamped and rolled." [CR24, n.d.]

1924--contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Covering the terraces with sod..." [CR6]; contract done by 6/1926 [CR]. ?[13-8-16].

1926--Annual Report shows picture of embankment completed [CR23].



1931--shown in photo [17-4-29].

NW Steps to Lower Plaza from Parking Lot

1925--recommended by [Boyle, p.19] ?? December 1, Commissioner's Annual Report may refer to these: "A flight of ten or twelve granite steps about ten feet wide, should also be built on the West side of the lower plaza at a point near the North front, from the level of the concrete walks in the grounds to the level of the plaza. Experience has shown that more than 50 per cent of public patronage comes from this point, and it would be an invitation to greater patronage to have these steps built. At the present time the Commission has resorted to the expedient of temporary wooden steps to accommodate the public and protect the lawn on the elevation around the plaza foundations from being trodden at this point..." [CR22, p.11]; Cost of \$210.64 [CR22, p.12].

1931--wooden (?) steps show in photo [17-4-29].

1941--Proposal for construction of granite steps (approximately four steps 180 ft. long, approx. 6" rise, 12" tread): "The transition between the elevation of the lower plaza and the driveway elevation is now a sod bank and public access is provided by temporary wooden steps. The present steps are inadequate to serve the needs and the granite steps contemplated in the original design should be installed to achieve the minimum dignity of approach warranted by the monument. The work was omitted from the original construction program because of lack of funds." [CR10]

1947--shown on survey, no indication if concrete or wood [NM-PV/5307].

[34] Lower Plaza

1914--"Contract awarded to Stewart Engineering for construction of urns, pedestals, paving of the upper and lower plazas, and for landscaping of the grounds." [SB]

1915--"Suspension of the Stewart contract because of lack of funds prevents paving of upper plaza and completion of the landscaping; column completed and opened to the public." [SBC] "Only the concrete substructures of the two plazas and levelling and covering the lower plaza with crushed stone were completed at this time." [DH]

1924--"...contract for paving of the plazas is awarded to Ambursen Construction Company..." [SBC] December 1, 1925, Commissioner's Annual Report states that the contract for the "stone block plazas, laid in concrete" have "...endured the test of the great differences of temperature at Put-In-Bay during an entire winter and summer..." [CR22, p.10] Paved in 1926 per [DH].

1938--"...the concrete slab under the paving was not waterproofed inasmuch as said paving of native sandstone was intended as a temporary one only and was to be replaced in the near future, by a permanent paving of granite, in conjunction with the completion of the Memorial." Freedlander quoted by [DH].

1977--"...plazas repaved with granite replacing the sandstone..." [SB]

Granite Steps between Lower and Upper Plazas

Part of original construction.

[35] Upper Plaza

Same as [34].

Panel Beds

1914--Contract calls for seeding these to the "best clean lawn seed" [MX, p.351].

1924--Freedlander plan designates "Grass" in panel beds ["Drawing 1A"].

1926--Annual Report shows picture of upper plaza with barberry ? hedges. [CR23, p. 7]

1931--photo shows hedges along sidewalk next to State Highway and along road next to bathhouse. Also hedges define planting beds on upper plaza. No shrubs evident along S seawall. E half of property not visible. [17-4-29].



1933-Barberry hedge (around the plaza) removed. [SB, p.21] [If Austrian pines were removed from along plaza in 1933, photo 17-4-41 shows barberry hedge in planter beds on upper terrace prior to 1934].

c.1934--six or eight sided kiosk "MEMORIAL LITERATURE PICTURES POSTCARDS SOUVENIRS" with barberry hedges in planting beds and pines all along upper terrace [18-1-1].

c.1945 [but probably pre-1934]--front beds filled with geraniums and rest, at least outlined, with barberry [17-4-40].

1959--shows as grass in all panels except for something taller growing in N two panels [17-5-1].

1974--grass shown except for white gravel? in front two panels [17-6-20].

#### Drains on Plazas

1924--contract specifications: "Furnishing and connecting drains of the upper terrace." [F, -1- MASON WORK]; "...12" x 12" x 7" deep, with brass top strainer..." [F, -4- MASON WORK]

#### Kiosk on Upper Plaza

1929--"A kiosk-type souvenir stand, erected on the plaza southwest of the column in 1929,..." [M, p.286]. See photo [13-8-16], but may not be same shape as other photo [18-1-1].

prior to 1931?--two kiosk-like structures appear on upper plaza; one is square or rectangular and looks similar to that in photo [13-8-16]; other is framework of multi-sided structure as in photo [18-1-1].

1931--shows in photo [17-4-29].

1930s--"...was removed during the late 1930's but continues [1961] to do service in the town park as an information booth during summer tourist season." [M, p.286]

c.1934--six or eight sided kiosk "MEMORIAL LITERATURE PICTURES POSTCARDS SOUVENIRS" with barberry hedges in planting beds and pines all along upper terrace [18-1-1].

#### [36] Memorial Column

1912--"Selection of Joseph Freedlander and Alexander Seymour's design; beginning of the construction of the column." [SBC]

1914--"Contract awarded to Stewart Engineering for construction of urns, pedestals, paving of the upper and lower plazas, and for landscaping of the grounds." [SBC]

1915--"Suspension of the Stewart contract because of lack of funds prevents paving of upper plaza and completion of the landscaping; column completed and opened to the public." [SBC]

1963--"Column is repointed." [SBC]

1984-85--"Extensive rehabilitation of the memorial; repointing of the column..." [SBC]

#### [37] Benches on Upper Plaza

1912--Specified on Freedlander's plan.

1926--Photograph showing benches in Annual Report [CR23, p.7].

#### Urns on Upper Plaza

1914--"Contract awarded to Stewart Engineering for construction of urns, pedestals, paving of the upper and lower plazas, and for landscaping of the grounds." [SBC]

1915--"Suspension of the Stewart contract because of lack of funds prevents paving of upper plaza and completion of the landscaping; column completed and opened to the public." [SBC]

c.1920--photo shows what appears to be (protective?, shipping?) covers over all four urns [17-3-18].

#### [38] Retaining Walls on West Side on Upper Plaza

1947--no restroom shown on survey, but outline is sketched in [NM-PV/5307].

c.1959--restrooms show in photo, but no retaining walls [17-5-4] and 1959 [17-5-1].

1974--no retaining walls [17-6-20].

Restrooms Under the Upper Plaza

1925--In Annual Mtg. Report of Commission, noted that appropriation "...was not sufficient to provide a rest room on the grounds for the use of the public..." [CR8, p.22; also CR19]

1947--no restroom shown on survey [NM-PV/5307]. However, outline is sketched in and reference is made to a drawing numbered NM-PV-2008.

c.1959--show in photo, but no retaining walls [17-5-4] and 1959 [17-5-1].

[39] Concrete Sidewalk (newer)

1959--not built yet [17-5-1].

1974--not built [17-6-20].

--added when restrooms installed under memorial?

1977-78--"added during Rehab" [TB]

[40] Concrete Sidewalk (older, closer to terraces)

1924--Letter to Smythe (Wadley & Smythe) on Oct. 16, 1924 "The Committee would very much like to have the four groups of Austrian Pines included if this could be done we would be satisfied to have the walk crossing the park on the east of the Memorial narrowed to 6ft [this sidewalk is 5.5' wide]." [CR7]

1925--December 1, Commissioner's Annual Meeting appears to state that work on "concrete walks in front of and through the grounds" was complete. Walks "...were laid to a depth of 11 inches..." [CR22, p.10]

1947--not shown on survey [NM-PV/5307].

1951?--put in [TB]

1959--showing clearly [17-5-1].

1974--showing clearly [17-6-20].

East Steps to Lower Plaza

c.1959--steps show, walk under snow? [17-5-4].

[41] Parking Lot in Front of Plazas

1912--shown in very similar configuration on Freedlander's plan.

[42] Norway Maple Tree

1925--Spring, "10 Large Maples" planted by Wadley & Smythe [CR9].

1956--tree shown in photo; also shows tree at SE corner of walk [19-7-32]. Shown as Norway maple on plan [NV-PV/3014]. Also shows Norway maples at other 3 corners of diagonal walks.

c.1959--shows in photo [17-5-4].

1974--shows in photo [17-6-20]. In fact all four Norway maples at corners show.

[43] East Concrete Diagonal Walk

c.1920--No walk shown, but path in almost exact same spot [17-3-18].

1924--Contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Concrete walks,...one crossing the site on the west side of the memorial and one on the east side." [CR6] Walks to be "7' wide." [CR24,n.d.]

1925--December 1, Commissioner's Annual Meeting appears to state that work on "concrete walks in front of and through the grounds" was complete. Walks "...were laid to a depth of 11 inches..." [CR22, p.10]. See photo [13-8-16].

1931--this side obscured but west diagonal walk shows [17-4-29].

1956--shows clearly [19-7-32].

1974--shows clearly [17-6-20].

[44] American Elm Tree



c.1965--showing as mature tree [17-5-11].

[45] Cottonwood Tree

c.1965--showing as mature tree [17-5-11].

[46] Northern Cedar Tree

c.1965--showing as mature tree [17-5-11]. Eastern Edge of Historic Property

c.1920--trees showing in almost same alignment as these next groups of trees [17-3-18].

1965--plan shows and labels these trees [NV-PV/3014].

1974--clear alignment shown from above [17-6-20].

Shrubs (General)

1924--"dwarf shrubs" referenced in Greening letter to Freedlander, Aug. 11, 1924 [CR2]

1925--Spring: "36 Large Hardy Flowering Shrubs" planted by W&S [CR9]

1925--December 1, 1925 Commissioner's Annual Mtg: "Very little shrubbery was employed for decoration, and the entire work was such as not to require extravagant future costs of maintenance." [CR22, p.10]

[47] Honeysuckle Shrub

See above.

[48] Street Light

[49] Lilac Shrub

See above.

[50] Silver Maple Tree

c. 1920--trees showing in almost same alignment as these next groups of trees [17-3-18].

1956--trees show clearly from top of monument in photo [19-7-32].

[51] Tree Mass

Green Ash, Green Ash, Green Ash, Silver Maple, Cottonwood Tree.

[52] Tree Mass

Ash and Cottonwood.

[53] Ash Tree

[54] Hackberry Tree

[55] Honeysuckle shrub

[56] Hackberry Tree

[57] Cottonwood Tree

Residual Trees Left on the Site During Initial Clearing

c. 1912--view from Chapman AVE (about NW corner?) showing clearing of deciduous trees; several left standing. [12-2-5]

1914--showing scattered large deciduous trees over grounds during column construction. [12-5-22] View from bay showing same. [12-7-20]

c.1915--masses of trees left at E & W ends of grounds, but flat, clear plane next to Memorial. [13-8-16]

c.1920--trees showing in almost same alignment as those on east boundary [17-3-18].

#### Boat Docks

c. 1911--unpaved road lined with deciduous trees in a row on S side and with occasional sycamore trees along N (bay) side. Shrubs or vineyards, and dock showing to W (off property). [12-2-1]

1914--one dock at far west side in front of house and one dock at far right. [12-7-20]

#### Grounds Maintenance (General)

1926--power lawn mower purchased [CR25, p.50].

1942--government curtailed expenses, no improvements [CR]

1944--"Frank and I burned the grass at the memorial grounds a real nice day last week and so have it cleaned up around the edges." Wm. Schnoor to W. P. Huntington, Jan.25, 1944 [CR1]

#### Barberry Hedges (General)

1925?--1924 contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Double row of barberry hedge all around the Site." [CR6] Contract done by 6/1926 [CR9]

1926--May 24 Report: "...the shrubbery forming a berberi hedge along the entire front, southerly on Chapman Avenue to the southwest corner of the grounds and easterly along the sea wall to the end thereof, had suffered no material loss since its planting during the previous autumn; that the line of Chapman Avenue defined by said hedge had been satisfactorily straightened;..." [CR25, pp.50-51].

1926--Annual Report shows picture of upper plaza with barberry ? hedges. [CR23, p. 7] Annual Report shows picture of western edge of parking lot with barberry ? hedge along sidewalk [CR23, p.11].

1929--barberry hedges washed and replanted [?]

prior 1931?--hedge evident along S seawall near bathing beach [16-7-32].

1931--photo shows hedges along sidewalk next to State Highway and along road next to bathhouse. Also hedges define planting beds on upper plaza. No shrubs evident along S seawall. E half of property not visible. [17-4-29].

1932--"Removal of all the barberries along the boulevard (State Highway 367)." [SBC]

1933--barberry hedge (around the plaza) removed. [SB, p.21]

1943--barberry hedge evident along Chapman AVE on west edge but not along State Road 367 [16-7-25].

c.1945--probably late-1930s, hedge evident along western edge on Chapman AVE and along bathing beach road at SW; none evident along south seawall nor along State Road 367 [17-4-17].

c.1945--hedge evident along S seawall from center of memorial to the east; none evident to the west side along seawall; shrubs evident on west edge of property [17-4-39].

c.1956--some possible remanents visible on eastern boundary [19-7-32], but gone by 1956 [17-5-2].

#### Clearing, Filling in Swampy Ground, and Lawn Care

c. 1912--view from Chapman AVE (about NW corner?) showing clearing of deciduous trees; several left standing. [12-2-5]

1914--showing scattered large deciduous trees over grounds during column construction. [12-5-22]

1918--"Filling of the grounds." [SBC] Begins at this date? (see 1921), but was not completed until 1980s? [TB]

c.1920--swampy ground shows. Also dredge barge? along S shore [17-3-18].

1921--"...LaBeau Wrecking Companies begins filling of the grounds." [SBC]

1924--"...LaBeau Wrecking completes the filling of the grounds [initially]..." [SBC]

1925?--1924 contract to Wadley & Smythe included "Covering with six inches of top soil, Fertilizing and



sowing grass seed. Covering the terraces with sod..." [CR6]

1925--December 1, 1925 Commissioner's Annual Mtg: "The landscaping consisted for the most part of filling and grading, perfecting levels and making lawns of approximately seven acres, one on each side of the Memorial." [CR22, p.10]; 1926 Annual Report shows picture of "old wall and condition of grounds before landscaping." [CR23, p.5]

1926--May Report: "...the autumn seeding on the East side of the Memorial had produced a lawn as perfect as could be expected at this season, and the Spring seeding on the West side was showing green over a considerable area;..." [CR25, p.51].

1926--December 1, 1925 Commissioner's Annual Report states seeding will not be completed until Spring 1926 [CR22]. "Landscaping is finally completed." [SBC]

1977--"...extensive filling of the grounds." [SBC]

#### Land Acquisitions

1852--"Efforts to establish a monument...got under way...." [SB].

1867--"...the Perry Monumental Association was formed and fundraising started. Success was limited as twelve congressional bills, introduced to create a monument between 1890 and 1903, failed to pass." [SB]

1910--Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commission established. [SB]

1911--3 U.S. Commissioners added to Interstate Commission. Frank Miles Day, architect, retained as advisor. [SB]

1912--Freedlander & Seymour's design selected. [SB]

#### Land Acquisitions (Cont.)

1913--"September centennial ceremonies--William Howard Taft is the featured speaker." [SBC] Shown by photo [17-4-29].

1915--column completed and opened to public. [SB]

1919--"Memorial is ceded to the United States by the state of Ohio." Apparently was not accepted by the U.S. until a later time. The Perry's Victory Memorial Commission becomes responsible for operation. [SBC]

1931--"Official dedication ceremonies." [SBC]

1936--"Monument is transferred to the National Park Service." [SBC]

1938--"George Wallace's NPS general development plan." [SBC]

1943--began effort to acquire 14 acres to east of memorial [CR2]

1951-1980--several NPS development plans, but none of them are ever implemented." [SBC]

1960--"Additional acreage (6.6... acres ...) appended to the Memorial." [SBC]

1960s--mid-1960s acquired the Farm? Estate and the west property. [DL]

1972--"Additional acreage (...4 acres...) appended to the Memorial." [SBC]

#### SOURCES For This Appendix:

- TY Ty Burgess, (Chief of Maintenance), Interview with Sherda Williams, 9 July 1992 at PEVI.
- CR Commission Records, various dates, archived at PEVI.
- F Freedlander, Joseph H. 1924 (May 15). *Specifications of Labor to be Performed and Materials to be Furnished For the Alterations and Repairs to the Column of the Perry Victory Memorial at Put-in-Bay, Ohio for the Perry's Victory Memorial Commission.*
- M Mongin, Alfred. 1961. *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial.* 2 volumes. National Park Service.
- DL Dick Lusardi, Superintendent at PEVI, Conversation with Mary Hughes, Summer 1992.

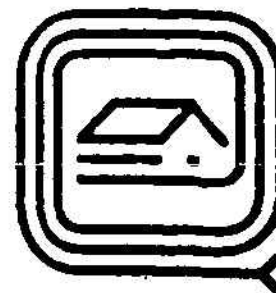
- MX Mongin, Alfred. 1961. "Appendix Number X: Contract October 27, 1914 for Construction of the Plaza and Landscaping of the Grounds By and Between Stewart Engineering Corporation...and The Inter-State Board of Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners...", *A Construction History of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*. 2 volumes. National Park Service.
- SBC Boyle, Susan Calafate. 1992 (Draft). "Summary Chronology." *Cultural Landscape Report, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*.
- SB Boyle, Susan Calafate. 1992 (Draft). "Historical Background." *Cultural Landscape Report, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial*.
- DH Henderson, David G. 1977. *Special Report: Proposed Repaving of the Memorial Plazas, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, Put-in-Bay, Ohio*. National Park Service, Denver Service Center.

The numbers within brackets (e.g., [17-6-20]) refers to historic photographs located at the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial archives.



Ohio Historic Preservation Office

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1982 Velma Avenue  
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OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
SINCE 1885

March 26, 1993

Mr. William W. Schenk  
National Park Service, Midwest Region  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-2571

Re: Cultural Landscape Report  
Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial  
Put-in-Bay, Ottawa County, Ohio


Dear Mr. Schenk,

This is in response to correspondence from your office dated February 22, 1993 (received February 26) transmitting the cultural landscape report for the above referenced project. The comments of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) are submitted in accordance with provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 [36 CFR 800]); serves as the lead federal agency. My staff has reviewed this project, and I offer the following comments.

The report documents a comprehensive assessment of National Register eligibility of the landscape surrounding the Memorial. The authors are to be complimented for the thorough and detailed discussion, especially with regard to the use of the Beaux Arts style in the Memorial's landscape. Based on the information presented in the report, I concur with your assessment that the Memorial's landscape should be included as one of the attributes contributing to its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. I also concur with your assessment that the planned construction adjacent to and within the National Register Boundary should be designed to complement the qualities of the landscaping. We look forward to working with you on the design of this new construction and other review aspects in completing this project.

Any questions concerning this matter should be addressed to David Snyder at (614) 297-2470, between the hours of 8 am. to 5 pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

  
Martha Raymond, Department Head  
Technical and Review Services

MJR/DMS:ds

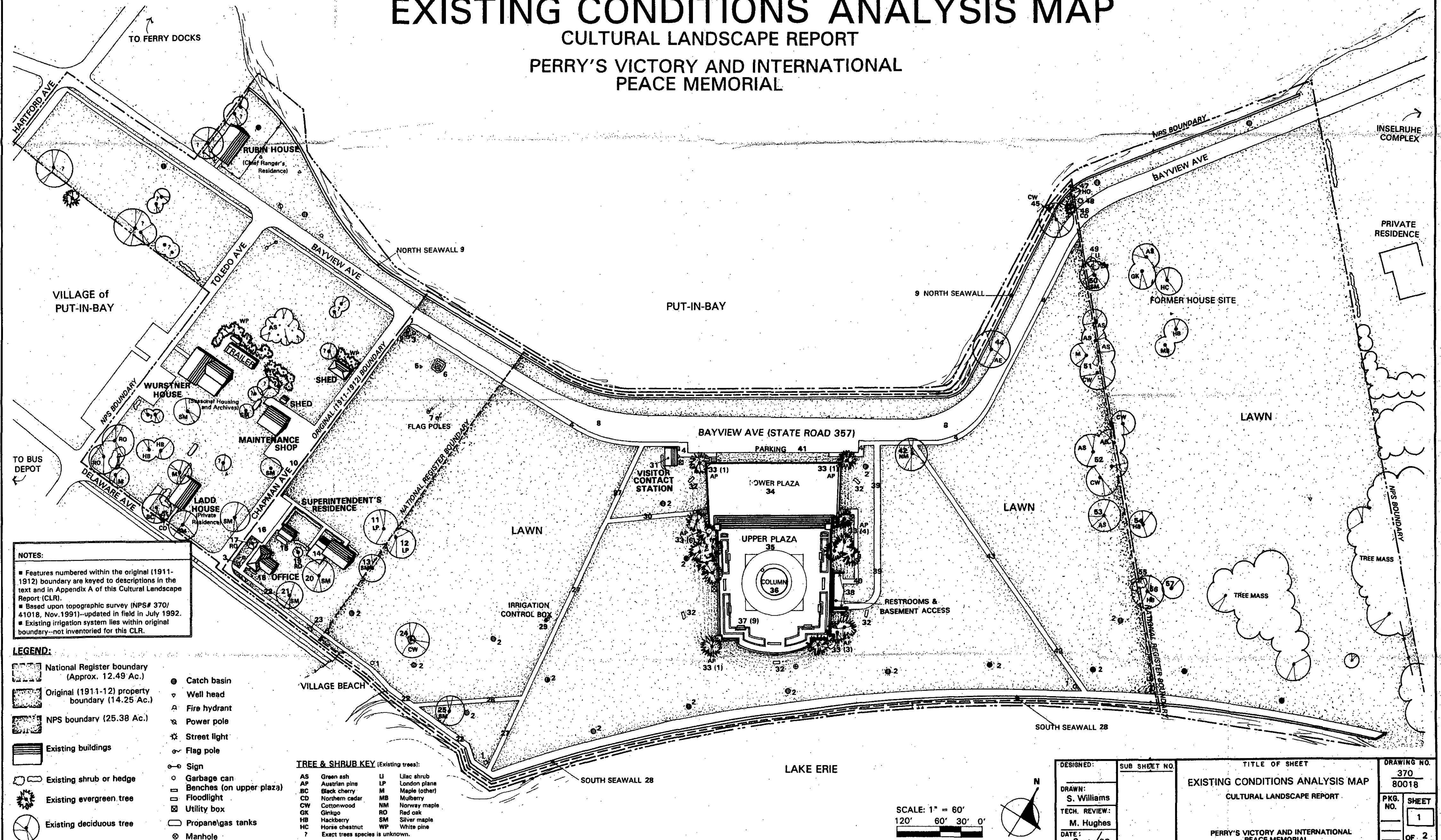
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# EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS MAP

## CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

### PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL



#### NOTES:

- Features numbered within the original (1911-1912) boundary are keyed to descriptions in the text and in Appendix A of this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR).
- Based upon topographic survey (NPS# 370/41018, Nov. 1991)—updated in field in July 1992.
- Existing irrigation system lies within original boundary—not inventoried for this CLR.

#### LEGEND:

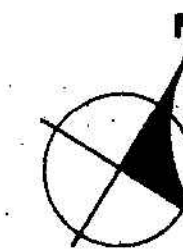
- ▬ National Register boundary (Approx. 12.49 Ac.)
- ▬ Original (1911-12) property boundary (14.25 Ac.)
- ▬ NPS boundary (25.38 Ac.)
- ▬ Existing buildings
- Existing shrub or hedge
- Existing evergreen tree
- Existing deciduous tree
- Catch basin
- ▽ Well head
- Fire hydrant
- ⚡ Power pole
- ⚡ Street light
- ⚡ Flag pole
- Sign
- Garbage can
- ▬ Benches (on upper plaza)
- ▬ Floodlight
- ▬ Utility box
- ▬ Propane/gas tanks
- ⊗ Manhole

#### TREE & SHRUB KEY (Existing trees):

- |                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| AS Green ash                      | LI Lilac shrub  |
| AP Austrian pine                  | LP London plane |
| BC Black cherry                   | M Maple (other) |
| CD Northern cedar                 | MB Mulberry     |
| CW Cottonwood                     | NM Norway maple |
| GK Ginkgo                         | RO Red oak      |
| HB Hackberry                      | SM Silver maple |
| HC Horse chestnut                 | WP White pine   |
| ? Exact trees species is unknown. |                 |

DESIGNED:	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN:		EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS MAP	370
TECH. REVIEW:		CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT	80018
DATE:		PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL	PKG. NO.
Sept./93			SHEET
			1
			OF 2

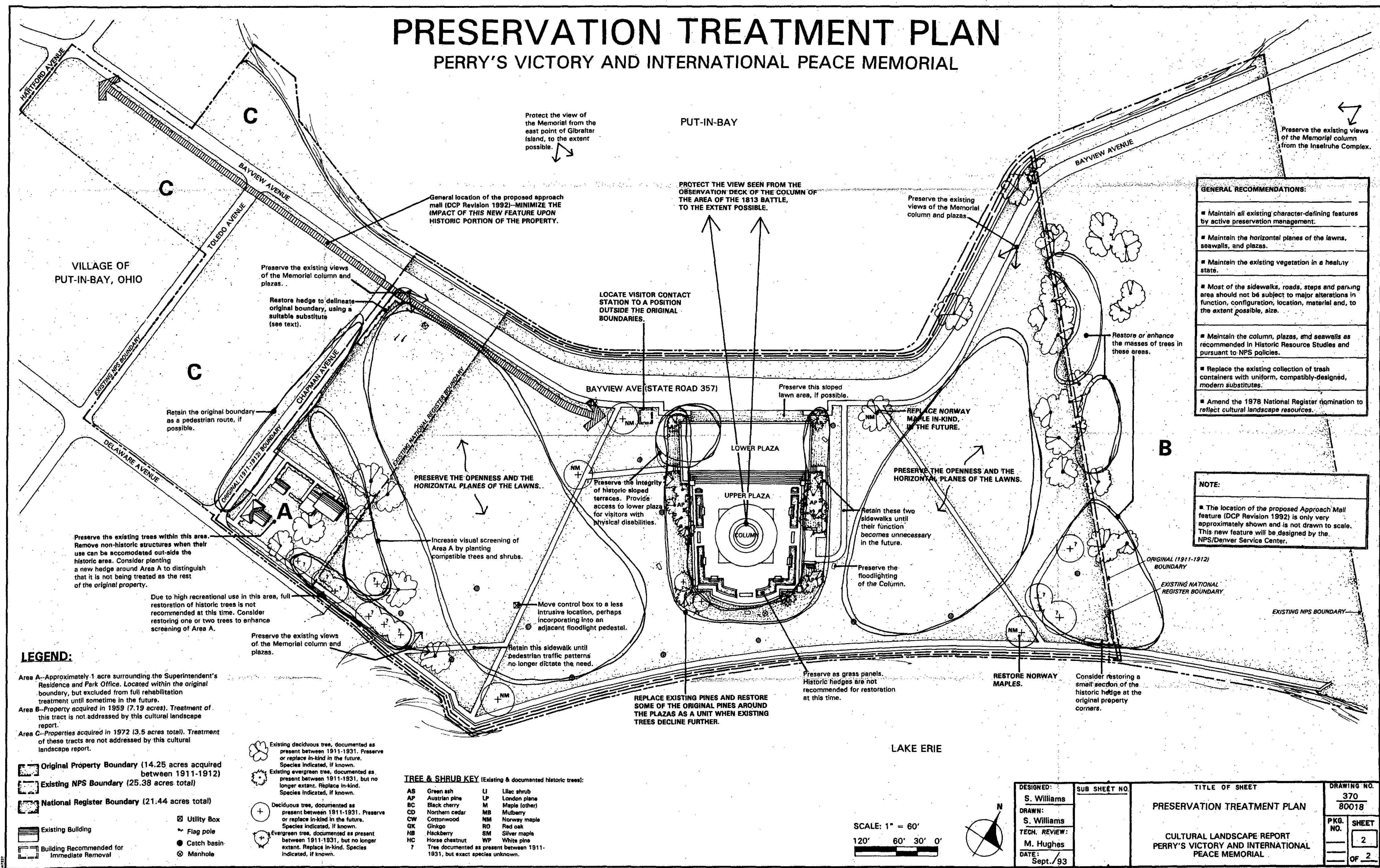
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120' 60' 30' 0'





# PRESERVATION TREATMENT PLAN

## PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL



- GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**
- Maintain all existing character-defining features by active preservation management.
  - Maintain the horizontal planes of the lawns, seawalls, and plazas.
  - Maintain the existing vegetation in a healthy state.
  - Most of the sidewalks, roads, steps and parking area should not be subject to major alterations in function, configuration, location, material and, to the extent possible, size.
  - Maintain the column, plazas, and seawalls as recommended in Historic Resource Studies and pursuant to NPS policies.
  - Replace the existing collection of trash containers with uniform, compatibly-designed, modern substitutes.
  - Amend the 1978 National Register nomination to reflect cultural landscape resources.

**NOTE:**

■ The location of the proposed Approach Mall feature (DCP Revision 1992) is only very approximately shown and is not drawn to scale. This new feature will be designed by the NPS/Denver Service Center.

**LEGEND:**

- Area A—Approximately 1 acre surrounding the Superintendent's Residence and Park Office. Located within the original boundary, but excluded from full rehabilitation treatment until sometime in the future.
- Area B—Property acquired in 1959 (7.19 acres). Treatment of this tract is not addressed by this cultural landscape report.
- Area C—Properties acquired in 1972 (3.5 acres total). Treatment of these tracts are not addressed by this cultural landscape report.

- Original Property Boundary (14.25 acres acquired between 1911-1931)
- Existing NPS Boundary (25.38 acres total)
- National Register Boundary (21.44 acres total)
- Existing Building
- Building Recommended for Immediate Removal
- Utility Box
- Flag pole
- Catch basin
- Manhole

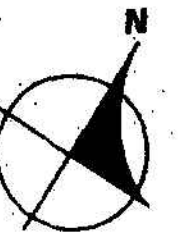
- Existing deciduous tree, documented as present between 1911-1931. Preserve or replace in-kind in the future. Species indicated, if known.
- Existing evergreen tree, documented as present between 1911-1931, but no longer extant. Replace in-kind. Species indicated, if known.
- Deciduous tree, documented as present between 1911-1931. Preserve or replace in-kind in the future. Species indicated, if known.
- Evergreen tree, documented as present between 1911-1931, but no longer extant. Replace in-kind. Species indicated, if known.

**TREE & SHRUB KEY** (Existing & documented historic trees):

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| AS Green ash      | LI Lilac shrub   |
| AP Austrian pine  | LP London plane  |
| BC Black cherry   | M Maple (other)  |
| CD Northern cedar | MB Mulberry  |
| CW Cottonwood     | NM Norway maple  |
| GK Ginkgo         | RO Red oak   |
| HB Hackberry      | SM Silver maple  |
| HC Horse chestnut | WP White pine  |
| ?                 | Tree documented as present between 1911-1931, but exact species unknown. |

SCALE: 1" = 60'

120' 60' 30' 0'



DESIGNED: S. Williams	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET PRESERVATION TREATMENT PLAN	DRAWING NO. 370 80018
DRAWN: S. Williams			
TECH. REVIEW: M. Hughes			
DATE: Sept./93			
		CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT PERRY'S VICTORY AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE MEMORIAL	PKG. NO. SHEET 2 OF 2